



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 5, 2016

The Honorable Pat McCrory
Governor of North Carolina
North Carolina Office of the Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-0301

Dear Governor McCrory:

I commend you for taking action to declare a state of emergency under state law and request a federal emergency declaration for the State of North Carolina prior to the arrival of Hurricane Matthew. Hurricane Matthew has the potential to inflict more damage while many of my constituents and others are still struggling to recover from significant flooding and damage that occurred in eleven counties across eastern North Carolina in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Julia.

To that end, I strongly urge you to do all you can to ensure North Carolinians in the eleven hardest hit counties are made whole. Specifically, I urge you to allocate additional state emergency and disaster response funding to these communities in need. I also urge you to request federal assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IV for damage caused by Tropical Storm Julia.

The damage to eastern North Carolina in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Julia has been significant, especially in the counties of Bertie and Chowan where 138 people needed to be rescued from their homes and cars. It is my understanding that the state still has more than \$1.7 billion in funding for emergency and disaster response, so I urge you to provide additional funding through grants – not loans – to the communities in need.

I also understand that you requested assistance from the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) related to the damage caused by Tropical Storm Julia. It would also be prudent for you to officially request assistance from the United States Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that eastern North Carolinians have the full support of their federal government in their recovery efforts.

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I appreciate the efforts the state has made so far in response to flooding in eastern North Carolina and preparing for the potential harmful impact of Hurricane Matthew, but there is undoubtedly more that can be done to help assist North Carolinians who were harmed by Tropical Storm Julia. I respectfully request that you use all avenues available to you to ensure the lives of people in eastern North Carolina are fully restored.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. K. Butterfield". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent vertical stroke at the end.

G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress