

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20510**

July 25, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

In the wake of recent extreme weather that brought severe thunderstorms and tornadoes to the State of Mississippi, we request your full consideration of Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves's request for a federal disaster declaration.

We appreciate the efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help Mississippians recover in the aftermath of the severe tornadoes that struck the state in March and April, and we anticipate expeditious support from the agency in assisting state and local officials as they continue assessing the severity of damages.


Initial damage reports indicate Mississippi experienced severe weather from June 14 through 19, 2023, including an EF-2 tornado with 130 MPH winds. As Governor Reeves requested, the Joint Public Assistance damage assessments demonstrate that at least 380 homes, businesses, and other structures were destroyed or suffered significant damage.

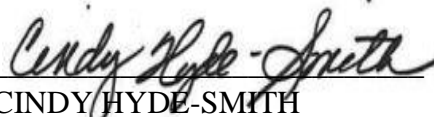
This declaration includes a request for individual assistance for Jackson and Jasper Counties. Additionally, it contains a request for public assistance to assist local governments primarily with debris removal in Claiborne, Copiah, Covington, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lawrence, Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Rankin, Scott, Simpson, Smith, and Wayne Counties.

Available resources from state and local governments and volunteer organizations are inadequate to meet the state's recovery needs. Significant federal assistance and cooperation are needed for Mississippi to rebuild.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need further assistance in this effort.

Sincerely,

  
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ROGER F. WICKER  
United States Senator

  
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CINDY HYDE-SMITH  
United States Senator



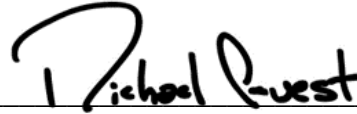
BENNIE G. THOMPSON  
Member of Congress



MIKE EZELL  
Member of Congress



TRENT KELLY  
Member of Congress



MICHAEL GUEST  
Member of Congress