

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 20, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

In response to the damage our communities have faced in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Fred, we write to request your urgent consideration and approval of the Major Disaster Declaration request submitted on September 17, 2021, by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

As you know, starting on August 18, 2021, the remnants of Tropical Storm Fred carried severe weather and significant rainfall into our region. Communities we represent faced flash flooding and substantive damage, leaving local leaders in need of significant assistance to fully recover from this storm. Having heard firsthand from our constituents about the need for federal aid, we strongly support the Major Disaster Declaration request submitted by Governor Hochul for Steuben, Allegany, Cayuga, Cortland, Lewis, Oneida, Steuben, Tioga, and Yates Counties.

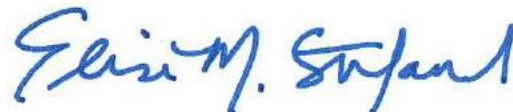
The damage caused by Tropical Storm Fred faces our region at a unique and difficult time. Our communities have dedicated considerable resources over the past year to addressing the public health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and recently, New York State has seen new demands on its disaster response programming as a result of Hurricane Ida. For this reason, we believe it is necessary and appropriate for Governor Hochul's request to be approved and for federal resources to be mobilized to our region.

Thank you for your time and urgent consideration of this request. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



John Katko
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



Tom Reed
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress