

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 20, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write in strong support of Governor Tate Reeves' request for a major disaster declaration following the severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds, and flash flooding that impacted Mississippi, and respectfully urge your timely approval of this request. We greatly appreciate your leadership, in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, in approving recent major disaster declarations for Mississippi. We have seen firsthand the critical role federal disaster assistance plays in helping our communities recover from devastating events.

On June 18 and 19, 2026, the remnants of Tropical Storm Arthur brought catastrophic flooding to southern Mississippi. Over a five-day period, the storm dropped as much as 30 inches of rain across portions of the state, with rainfall rates reaching up to three inches per hour. This extraordinary volume of rainfall triggered life-threatening flash flooding, threatened the integrity of earthen dams, and pushed multiple river basins into major flood stage. Six major river basins crested and remained above flood stage for as long as seven days following the initial impacts of the storm. While damage assessments remain ongoing, preliminary reports indicate that Tropical Storm Arthur damaged at least 532 homes, 17 businesses, and five farms across Mississippi.

Governor Reeves' request seeks both Individual Assistance and Public Assistance. Individual Assistance has been requested for Hancock, Harrison, Pearl River, and Stone counties. Public Assistance has been requested for Covington, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Pearl River, Stone, and Wayne counties.

Mississippi continues to work closely with federal and local officials, volunteers, faith-based organizations, and private-sector partners to support response and recovery efforts. Despite these coordinated efforts, the magnitude of this disaster exceeds the state's capacity to recover without federal support. Approval of this request will provide critical resources to help affected families, businesses, and communities rebuild and recover.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your continued commitment to the people of Mississippi. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need further assistance in this effort.

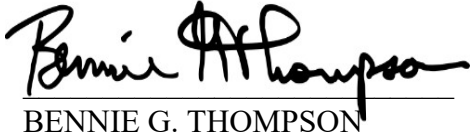
Sincerely,



ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator



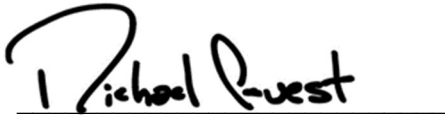
CINDY HYDE-SMITH
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bennie G. Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

BENNIE G. THOMPSON
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Trent Kelly". The signature is stylized, with the first name being the most prominent.

TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael Guest". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

MICHAEL GUEST
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mike Ezell". The signature is stylized, with the first name being the most prominent.

MIKE EZELL
Member of Congress