Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20006

Dear President Biden:

Over the last two days, Rhode Island has experienced a strong storm with significant rainfall, winds over 60 miles per hour, and localized and coastal flooding. The storm, with heavy rains and damaging winds, caused about 72,000 power outages, necessitated the closure of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier, overwhelmed storm water systems, closed schools and local businesses, and caused damage and debris to both homes and businesses.

As our local communities work to clean up and assess damage, we urge you to expeditiously approve any request from the State of Rhode Island for federal assistance, including under the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

Thank you for your assistance and leadership.

Sincerely,

Jack Reed

United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator

Gabe Amo

Member of Congress