

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

January 10, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The White House  
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

From January 9-10, Rhode Island was impacted by a severe storm that delivered heavy rainfall, damaging winds, and widespread, significant flooding across the state.

These rains have overwhelmed storm water systems and rivers, submerged cars, closed local and state roads, flooded and forced evacuations from homes and apartment complexes. According to National Weather Service data, much of the state received at least 3 inches of rainfall, with isolated pockets receiving over 5 inches of rainfall. The Pawcatuck, Pawtuxet, and Blackstone Rivers, three major watersheds, are in flood stage and still rising.

As our first responders and local communities work to ensure public safety, clean up and assess flood damage, we urge you to expeditiously approve any request from the State of Rhode Island for an emergency or disaster declaration under the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

Thank you for your assistance and leadership.

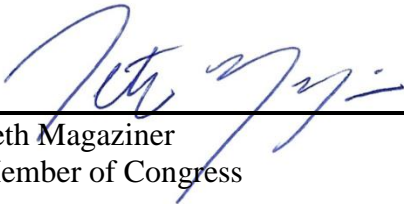
Sincerely,



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress