

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

January 24, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We request your full consideration of Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant's request for an expedited major disaster declaration related to severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds, and flooding during the period of January 20-21, 2017. We also support the Governor's request for statewide Hazard Mitigation.

We have been encouraged by the efforts of Federal Emergency Management Agency to deploy rapidly to Mississippi to assist state and local officials in estimating the severity of the initial damage caused by a series of tornado touchdowns, some rated as strong as EF-3. The most recent estimates show that four lives were lost in Mississippi, over 50 others were injured, and more than 1,000 homes were destroyed or sustained damage as a result of these weather events. Much of this destruction has occurred in parts of our state that have been particularly affected by our nation's current economic situation.

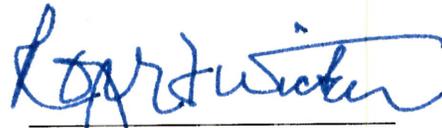
The state, local governments and volunteer organizations have been strained by their immediate response to these disasters as well as continuing recovery operations from previous disasters. We are committed to working together to help these affected communities and our state recover from the significant damage across the Southeast United States caused by this severe storm system.

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

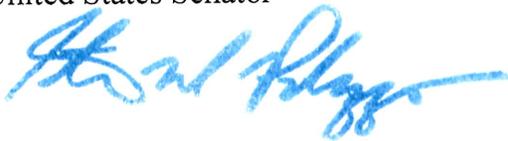
Sincerely,



THAD COCHRAN
United States Senator



ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator

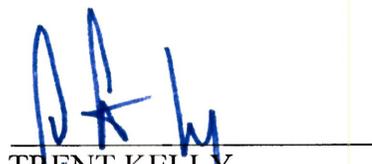


STEVEN PALAZZO
Member of Congress



GREGG HARPER
Member of Congress


BENNIE THOMPSON
Member of Congress


TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress