

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 3, 2026

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

Dear President Trump,

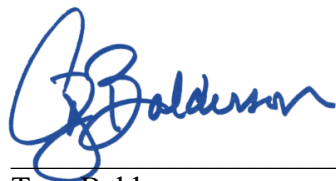
Thank you for your administration's rapid involvement and assistance in expediting the process to provide federal relief to Ohioans in the wake of recent storms that have devastated much of Ohio. We write in strong support of Governor Mike DeWine's request for a major disaster declaration, which was submitted to FEMA Region V on September 2, 2026.

Between August 10, 2026, and August 23, 2026, severe and extreme weather, including a derecho, tornadoes, and catastrophic flooding, spread across much of Ohio. These storms tragically resulted in two deaths, numerous injuries, left 300,000 Ohioans without power, and destroyed hundreds of homes, properties, and businesses belonging to our constituents. On August 24, 2026, FEMA, the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA) began conducting the Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for Individual Assistance and Public Assistance. We understand the Joint PDA for Public Assistance is ongoing.

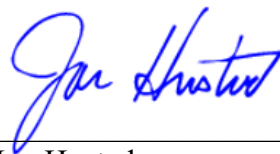
According to Governor DeWine, the Joint PDA team assessed over 2,000 structures across 23 counties in the State. They found at least 50 destroyed structures, 806 structures with major damage, and 475 with minor damage. In addition to the tragic deaths of two individuals, the storms resulted in 59 water rescues and numerous evacuations. The storms caused massive power outages, as well as Interstate, State Route, and County Road closures spanning multiple counties. The State of Ohio assisted in the opening of 10 shelters across 5 counties to help Ohioans displaced by the storms. As of September 2, 2026, two of those shelters remain open. The damage and devastation resulting from these storms far exceed the State of Ohio's resources, and federal assistance is needed to support disaster relief efforts.

We thank you for your administration's rapid assistance and coordination to support the State of Ohio and Ohioans impacted by these devastating storms. We respectfully urge you to quickly approve the Governor's request for a major disaster declaration for the State of Ohio to help our constituents begin the process of rebuilding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Balderson", written over a horizontal line.

Troy Balderson
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Husted", written over a horizontal line.

Jon Husted
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bernie Moreno", written over a horizontal line.

Bernie Moreno
United States Senator