

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 12, 2004

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

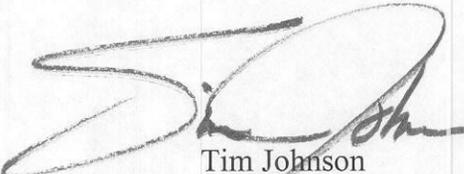
We are writing to encourage your favorable consideration of the disaster request submitted by South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds. Based on data gathered in conjunction with an assessment team established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the state is seeking a Major Disaster Declaration to respond to serious flooding in the region.

The Governor has requested assistance for nine counties and the Rosebud Indian Reservation. The nine counties include: Haakon, Jackson, Marshall, Mellette, Minnehaha, Todd, Tripp, Turner, and Yankton. We are thankful that no lives were lost due to the recent floods; however, local resources are insufficient to address the scope of the damage and the resulting expenses. We encourage the Administration to expeditiously review the Governor's requests and approve federal assistance.

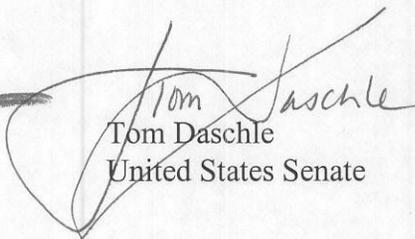
We appreciate your attention to the disastrous conditions facing our state and the considerable burden disaster recovery efforts place on local governments, businesses, families, and individuals. A Major Disaster Declaration is vital to ensure that cleanup and recovery efforts are implemented in a timely and effective manner.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Tim Johnson
United States Senate



Tom Daschle
Tom Daschle
United States Senate



Stephanie Herseth
Stephanie Herseth
Member of Congress