

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 20, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

Governor Pierluisi has formally requested a Major Disaster Declaration for all of Puerto Rico's municipalities in response to Hurricane Fiona. We strongly urge you to approve this request to ensure Puerto Rico has all the federal resources available to respond to this disaster.

Hurricane Fiona devastated the island with catastrophic flash flooding, unprecedented rainfall, and high-speed winds. The hurricane caused an island-wide blackout, leaving over three million residents without power for over twenty-four hours. Furthermore, 750,000 homes remain without potable water. Bridges have collapsed, roads are blocked with debris, and schools are damaged. FEMA Public Assistance is urgently needed to begin restoring this vital infrastructure.

In addition, Hurricane Fiona has caused significant flood damage to homes across the island. Many families are now seeking temporary shelter and will require significant aid in order to rebuild their homes. FEMA's Individual Assistance is critical to assist with these housing costs and other recovery expenses. We thank you for swiftly approving Puerto Rico's Emergency Declaration this past Sunday.

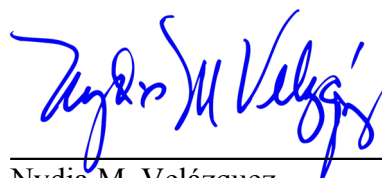
In 2017, thousands of lives were lost in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria due to the butchered government response by the Trump Administration. In 2020, the island faced destructive earthquakes, requiring more disaster recovery resources. Five years since Hurricane Maria, LUMA Energy and the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) have yet to adequately repair the electrical system, resulting in continued frequent and widespread electrical outages. These events have left Puerto Rico's critical infrastructure vulnerable to extreme weather. We urge you to help the people of Puerto Rico equitably recover from these multiple disasters and access the federal funding they urgently need.

Given the damaged infrastructure, we urge you to promptly approve Governor Pierluisi's request for a Major Disaster Declaration for all of Puerto Rico's municipalities in response to Hurricane Fiona.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



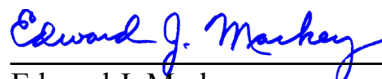
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



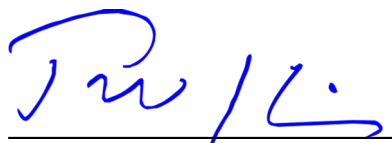
Cory Booker
United States Senator



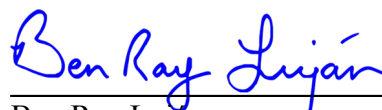
Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



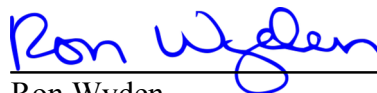
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



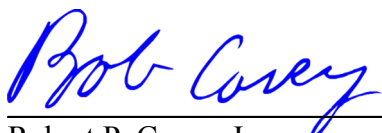
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



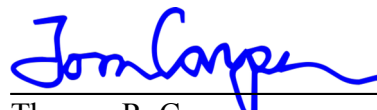
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



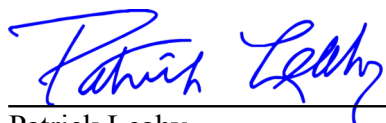
Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



Raphael G. Warnock
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator




Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator




Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



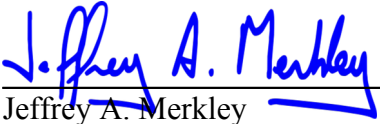
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



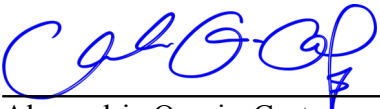
Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



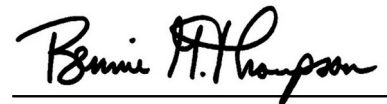
Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Val Butler Demings
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



Jenniffer González-Colón
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



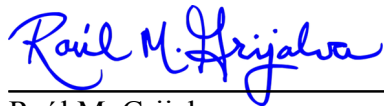
Al Green
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress