

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 5, 2017

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write in full support of the Governor of Maine's request that you declare a Major Disaster for thirteen counties in the State of Maine as a result of extraordinary storms that severely affected our state in late October.

Over the course of several days, an intense storm system brought significant wind gusts and rainfall, ultimately causing power outages for more than 1.2 million Mainers, or roughly 90 percent of Maine's population. One of Maine's two largest utility companies reported that the storm resulted in the largest number of outages in that company's history. Additionally, the storm caused extensive damage to public infrastructure and dramatic harm to hundreds of businesses and farms. A Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment for Public Assistance requested by Maine on November 9 validated nearly \$4.7 million in public infrastructure damages across the state. Each of the counties included in the Governor's request experienced damages which exceeded the per capita threshold of \$3.68.

During the ordeal, the performance of local and state emergency personnel was nothing short of exemplary. Emergency responders and volunteers worked around-the-clock for days to restore power, clear debris, establish shelters, and ensure the availability of life-saving services for the people of Maine. However, response to this tragic storm has greatly strained the financial resources of local and state governments, and the Governor has determined that the effects of the storm exceed the state's currently available capabilities.

We urge you to give expeditious consideration and approval of the Governor's request. The State of Maine is greatly in need of this disaster assistance.

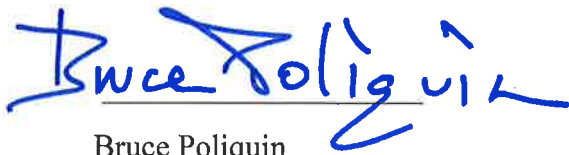
Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce Poliquin". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Bruce" and the last name "Poliquin" clearly legible.

Bruce Poliquin
United States Representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chellie Pingree". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Chellie" and the last name "Pingree" clearly legible.

Chellie Pingree
United States Representative

cc – The Honorable Brock Long
Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency