

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500-0001

Dear President Biden,

We write to draw your attention to the April 30, 2024, letter from Governor Andy Beshear requesting a Major Disaster Declaration for the tornadoes and severe weather event that began on April 2, 2024. We support this request from the Governor, and encourage your prompt consideration. If approved, this declaration would provide much needed federal resources to the citizens of Kentucky impacted by this storm. Additionally, should a subsequent request for Public Assistance be made in relation to this initial request, we offer our support for that, as well.

On April 1, 2024, the State Emergency Operations Center began monitoring the severe weather forecast before severe wind, tornadoes, thunderstorms, mudslides and heavy rain swept across the Commonwealth. In addition to a State of Emergency declaration for the entire Commonwealth, fourteen counties and thirteen cities declared a State of Emergency. More than a dozen tornadoes swept through Kentucky, and, at the height of the storm's impact, more than 32,000 customers were without power. Tragically, twenty-two Kentuckians were injured and one Kentuckian perished because of the storm conditions.

Kentucky has faced a number of Major Disasters in recent years. As you know from your previous visits, in just the past four years, Kentucky has been devastated by some of the worst tornadoes and floods in state history. Kentucky has received eight Major Disaster Declarations since 2020, not including COVID-19. Further, some counties included in the Governor's request have been included in as many as six Major Disaster Declarations, and thus, federal assistance is needed.

Again, thank you for your attention to the ongoing recovery of disasters impacting parts of Kentucky, which we represent. We appreciate your timely consideration of this request so that families can continue to recover from the severe weather that disrupted their lives.

Sincerely,



Mitch McConnell
UNITED STATES SENATOR



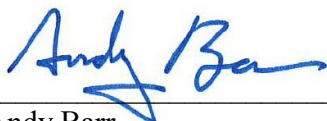
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