

Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 30, 2020

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to request your full and fair consideration of the State of California's request for a major disaster declaration in response to wildfires that have struck the State this month. In early September, extreme wind events combined with a heat wave and exceedingly dry conditions led to several new fire ignitions that spread rapidly at a time when state and federal firefighting resources were already strained due to numerous record-breaking fires that broke out in the state in August.

These September wildfires have impacted the counties of Fresno, Los Angeles, Madera, Mendocino, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Siskiyou, and have burned over 1,887,932 acres and tragically claimed the lives of at least three people. These fires, including the Creek, Oak, Bobcat, El Dorado, Valley, Slater, Devil, Red Salmon, and Fox Fires, have destroyed 3,368 structures, including nearly 1,000 homes, and have damaged another 232. Governor Newsom has declared a State of Emergency in each of these counties and has deployed all available assets in the State's disaster response. But federal coordination and assistance is needed, especially as state and local resources continue to respond to both the COVID-19 public health emergency and the August 2020 wildfires.

We thank you for expeditiously granting California's request for a disaster declaration to respond to the August 2020 wildfires, and ask for your full and fair consideration of the State of California's request for a major disaster declaration to respond to September 2020 wildfires.

Sincerely,

Judy Chu
Member of Congress

Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House

Kevin McCarthy
House Republican Leader

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Harley Rouda
Member of Congress

Paul Cook
Member of Congress

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

Ken Calvert
Member of Congress

Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Tom McClintock
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

Mike Garcia
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress

Devin Nunes
Member of Congress

Susan Davis
Member of Congress