Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2006

President George W. Bush The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you know, most regions of New Hampshire have suffered severe damage to both public infrastructure and private property as a result of the heavy rains during the past four days beginning on May 12th. Reports indicate that some regions saw nearly a foot of rain within a 36 hour period and the subsequent flooding has destroyed roads and bridges throughout the State and heightened concerns of dam failures. Furthermore, high water has forced the evacuations of neighborhoods in several communities, the New Hampshire National Guard has been deployed to fifteen of the hardest hit communities including Manchester, Hooksett and Raymond and school and other important events have been cancelled for the past two days. In short, the rains have severely disrupted towns and cities from Concord to Nashua to Portsmouth as well as to those areas still recovering from the flood disaster of October 2005.

Local emergency management officials have taken every step they can to respond to this ongoing disaster. However, given the unprecedented nature of this event, we believe the federal government must take immediate action to support these efforts. It is clear the cost to rebuild will be significant and beyond the means of the impacted towns and cities.

We urge you to immediately approve the State's request for a preliminary damage assessment and to support New Hampshire's anticipated request for a Major Disaster Declaration.

Sincerely,

Judd Gregg

U.S. Senator

John E. Sununu

U.S. Senator

Charles F. Bass

Member of Congress

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Member of Congress