

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

February 4, 2026

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

Dear President Trump,

In the aftermath of the devastation caused by Winter Storm Fern and its significant impact on the State of Mississippi, we respectfully encourage your full consideration of Governor Tate Reeves' request for a major disaster declaration. We are grateful for the continued support provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to this and prior disasters, and we look forward to the agency's timely assistance as state and local officials work diligently to assess and respond to the full scope of the damage.

From January 23 through January 27, 2026, dozens of Mississippi counties experienced extreme weather conditions as a result of Winter Storm Fern. We are grieved that preliminary reports indicate that 26 lives have been lost in our state. Nearly 200,000 homes lost power, and many residents remain without electricity. Initial damage assessments point to widespread destruction of homes, businesses, and community facilities.

The requested major disaster declaration includes a request for individual assistance for 36 counties and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, as well as disaster unemployment. Additionally, it contains a request for public assistance to help local governments in 38 counties and the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, particularly with debris removal.

State and local resources, along with those of volunteer organizations, are insufficient to meet Mississippi's recovery needs. Strong federal support and coordination will be essential to help communities recover and rebuild. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact us should additional information be needed.

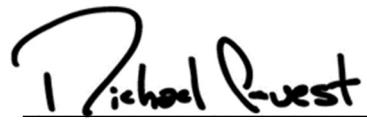
Sincerely,


ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator


BENNIE G. THOMPSON
Member of Congress


CINDY HYDE-SMITH
United States Senator


TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress



MICHAEL GUEST
Member of Congress



MIKE EZELL
Member of Congress