

DONALD A. MANZULLO
16TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

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July 26, 2010

The Honorable Pat Quinn, Governor
State of Illinois
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Governor Quinn,

I am writing in support of the requests for a major state disaster declaration for Stephenson, Jo Daviess, Carroll and Ogle counties as a result of the flash flooding beginning July 22, 2010. All of these counties have issued disaster declarations and are requesting state and federal assistance. The Governor of Iowa issued a state disaster declaration on Friday for counties impacted in that state.

I have been in communication with local mayors, county officials and emergency management coordinators and the initial damage assessments indicate significant damage to many homes, businesses and public infrastructure throughout the region. It is my understanding that up 1,000 homes have been impacted by the floodwaters in the city of Freeport, Pearl City and Stephenson County alone. In Jo Daviess County, bridges have been washed out, and many roads are damaged. In other communities such as Savanna and Leaf River water and sewer facilities, bridges and roads have been badly damaged.

It appears there will be millions of dollars in public facilities and private property damage. I respectfully request that you immediately declare a disaster area for the multi-county area of northwest Illinois that has been devastated by the flash flooding and request a federal disaster declaration from the President, so that Federal Emergency Management Agency officials can begin the work of assessing the level of damage in preparation for federal assistance. As you know, the governor of a state must declare a state disaster area and request federal assistance before the President can declare a federal disaster declaration.

Thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this important request and I stand ready to assist in any appropriate way.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Manzullo
Member of Congress
16th District of Illinois