

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 16, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

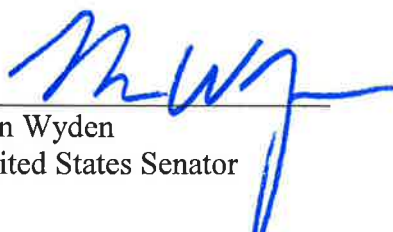
Communities in Oregon have suffered significant losses, as a result of the January 7 through 20 snow and weather events, which have had devastating consequences on our local economies. Oregon Governor Kate Brown has requested a Presidential disaster declaration and assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for the entire state of Oregon for that period, as well as Public Assistance for the following ten counties: Baker, Columbia, Curry, Deschutes, Hood River, Josephine, Malheur, Multnomah, Union and Washington.

This very severe succession of winter storms included high winds, heavy snows, freezing rain, ice accumulation, heavy rains, flooding, and landslides, which all contributed to road closures, structural losses, loss of power and heat, needs for emergency services for the most vulnerable, and pressure on hospital and medical clinics already stressed by the needs of influenza patients.

Data shows that eligible damages for the ten counties for which the state of Oregon is requesting Public Assistance totals \$17.6 million, with very large hits to the smaller rural communities involved.

As you know, a federal disaster declaration sets in motion the ability for local governments and its citizens to receive state aid and other assistance to alleviate the damages incurred. This relief is desperately needed by these communities, to rebuild Oregon's towns and economies. We thank you in advance for your expedited review of this declaration request.

Sincerely,



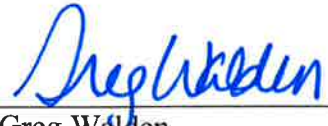
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Greg Walden
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress