Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

June 15, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C., 20500

President Biden:

We write today in support of the State of Montana's major disaster declaration request as a result of severe weather and substantial rainfall throughout much of the state that began on June 10, 2022. On June 15, 2022, the Governor of Montana submitted a request for a major disaster declaration under Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. We support the Governor's request and urge its immediate approval.

The storms, which included heavy and continued rainfall, caused rivers and streams to rise out of their banks and led to rapid snowmelt which is further exacerbating this disaster. As a result, several counties have enacted emergency or disaster declarations and numerous local jurisdictions have suffered catastrophic damage to critical infrastructure, like roads, bridges, and utility systems. The Montana National Guard rescued at least a dozen stranded individuals, but thankfully no lives were lost. The impact of this flooding will continue to have a profound impact on the region's economy for some time and swift assistance will help repair the damage to homes, businesses, and livelihoods of Montanans.

We urge you to promptly approve this request for a major disaster declaration and look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

on Tester

United States Senator

Steve Daines

United States Senator

Matthew Rosendale, Sr. Member of Congress