

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 22, 2026

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

Dear Mr. President,

As members of the Washington state delegation, we write in support of Washington state's January 21, 2026 request for a Major Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance due to devastating flood damages incurred from December 5 through December 22. The individual assistance requested by Governor Ferguson is essential for the thousands of Washingtonians whose homes were destroyed or significantly damaged. We implore you to approve the request for assistance as quickly as possible.

This system of "atmospheric rivers" has brought torrential rain, wind, and snow to much of the region, resulting in record-breaking flooding and power outages for thousands of residents. Hundreds of communities were immediately at risk, forcing hundreds of thousands of Washingtonians across the state to evacuate, including the entire city of Burlington and Sedro-Woolley. In the city of Pacific, a breached levee left hundreds of homes vulnerable to floodwater. This storm claimed the life of one Washingtonian and has damaged the homes and livelihoods of many more.

From the Olympic Peninsula to Central Washington, communities across the state experienced devastating losses. An initial assessment found that catastrophic flooding and devastating winds affected nearly 4,000 homes across 17 counties. More than eleven percent of affected homes were destroyed or severely damaged and thousands of residences will require significant repair or replacement. While the state was able to provide some assistance for residents whose homes were severely impacted, it requires additional federal support to meet the need across the state.

We reiterate our full support for the January 21, 2026 request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance. We appreciate you in advance for your prompt attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,


Patty Murray
United States Senator


Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Emily Randall
Member of Congress



Marie Gluesenkamp Perez
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



Michael Baumgartner
Member of Congress