

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 24, 2011

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Norm Dicks
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Dicks,

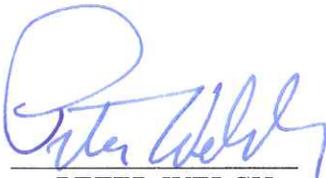
This year, 47 out of 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia have experienced federally declared disasters. With 89 major disasters declared so far in 2011, we have already established a record and still have more than two months remaining in the year. While our communities have shown remarkable resilience in the face of these tragedies, the devastation they have experienced is incredible.

On October 4, 2011, President Obama signed into law a Continuing Resolution which appropriated \$2.65 billion for FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund. While this funding is critical in helping our districts rebuild, it represents a down payment on the path to full recovery. As you draft legislation to fund the federal government for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2012, we respectfully request that you include funding for the following disaster-related programs that is sufficient to meet the pressing needs in our districts:

- Disaster Relief Fund (FEMA);
- Emergency Response Program (FHWA);
- Economic Development Assistance Programs (DOC);
- LIHEAP Emergency Contingency Funds (HHS);
- Community Development Block Grants (HUD);
- Section 8 (HUD);
- Emergency Conservation Program (USDA);
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program (USDA);
- Emergency Forest Restoration Program (USDA);
- Army Corps of Engineers, Operation and Maintenance (DOD); and
- Army Corps of Engineers, Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (DOD).

Our constituents are working to get back on their feet, but they cannot do it alone. Please provide funding that ensures the swift recovery of the families, farms, and businesses in our districts.

Sincerely,


PETER WELCH
Member of Congress


WALTER JONES
Member of Congress


PAUL TONKO
Member of Congress


MAURICE HINCHEY
Member of Congress

Jim McForm Bill Du Vivi

Tom Marino PAO Tom Backler Ben

Bob Brady Jim Langwin J.M. Chi

Louise M. Slaughter Jerald Madler Bill

Alcee L. Hastings Richard Gregory W. Meeks

Lynn Woolsey Debra Carolyn M. Corbett

Jan Schak Rosa D. DeLeon Priscilla

Rush Holt Jana Pugh Erin

No. Hayward PgC Peter Judy Ann

John _____