Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 3, 2025

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

Dear President Trump,

We respectfully urge your immediate action regarding Governor Mike Kehoe's request for a federal disaster declaration in 28 of Missouri's 114 counties in response to the severe weather that impacted Missouri March 14-15 this year. The State is requesting Public and Private Assistance. We ask that you grant the major disaster declaration and make this federal assistance available to support Missouri's recovery.

On March 14, Missouri faced multiple fires fueled by 60-70 mph winds, followed by powerful tornados that caused catastrophic damage. As of April 3, 13 people have died, and hundreds of homes, schools, and businesses have been severely damaged or destroyed. At the storm's peak, more than 140,000 homes and businesses lost power, and 101 roads were closed due to debris, flooding, and structural damage. ¹

Ahead of the storm, Governor Kehoe declared a State of Emergency, which enabled first responders, road crews, and emergency management officials to start initial damage assessments. The State of Missouri has coordinated with local emergency managers to deploy vital resources, including shelter assistance, debris removal, damage assessments, and other essential recovery efforts.

Given the severity of this disaster and the need for federal support, we urge swift approval of Missouri's request. We appreciate your attention and stand ready to help ensure resources reach those in need.

Sincerely,

Jøsh Hawley

United States Senator

Eric Schmitt

United States Senator

¹ Live Updates: Severe Weather, Winter, Wind Storm, Weather Channel (Mar. 14, 2025), https://weather.com/news/weather/news/2025-03-14-live-updates-severe-weather-winter-wind-storm.

Jason Smith Member of Congress

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