

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 14, 2011

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Rogers:

As Appropriations Committee members whose states are still recovering from the impact of Hurricane Irene, we are writing to urge you to incorporate President Obama's recent request for additional funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) as you prepare the Continuing Resolution (CR) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011.

In his letter to Speaker Boehner, the President specifically requested \$500 million for the DRF to make it through the remainder of FY 2011 and an amendment of \$4.6 billion in additional funding for the DRF beyond his original FY 2012 budget submission. We support immediately granting this request as part of the CR.

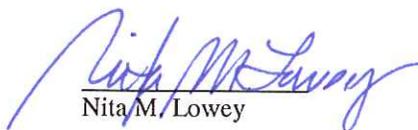
The nation continues to reel from devastating tornadoes, hurricanes and fires over the course of 2011. FEMA must be able to address the immediate needs of communities and individuals as well as provide the long-term relief expected by the American people.

Unfortunately, the DRF is perilously low on cash and the only way to ensure FEMA has the resources it needs to assist communities is to immediately replenish the DRF.

There has been much discussion in recent weeks about the possibility of offsetting any replenishment of the DRF for FY 2011. While we are committed to working with you to find cost savings throughout the federal budget, needlessly delaying aid to communities by prompting a fight over spending offsets in the CR would be irresponsible.

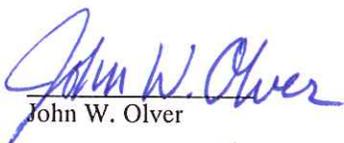
We look forward to continuing to work with you to address the needs of those affected by these disasters.

Sincerely,


Nita M. Lowey


David E. Price

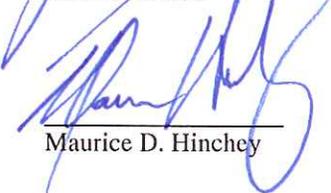

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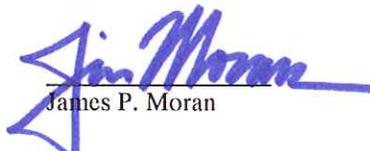

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