

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

August 31, 2023

The Honorable Joe Biden  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis's request for a Major Disaster Declaration due to Hurricane Idalia, which caused catastrophic damage as it made landfall near Keaton Beach as a major hurricane early yesterday morning. Hurricane Idalia's devastating wind speeds, historic storm surge, and heavy rainfall severely impacted substantial portions of the state, with significant flooding, massive power outages, and widespread damage that will take a strong partnership to recover and rebuild.

This major hurricane will continue to impact the state for some time, and the full extent of damage will not be known for days. However, approving this declaration request will allow Floridians to be better prepared for the recovery phase. As such, we urge you to approve the State of Florida's request for a Major Disaster Declaration.

Floridians are incredibly resilient, and with the cooperation from all levels of government, we will rebuild stronger than ever. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Rick Scott  
United States Senator



Marco Rubio  
United States Senator



Kat Cammack  
United States Representative



Vern Buchanan  
United States Representative



Gus M. Bilirakis  
United States Representative



Kathy Castor  
United States Representative



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.  
United States Representative



Laurel Lee  
United States Representative



Daniel Webster  
United States Representative



Michael Waltz  
United States Representative