

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

October 6, 2024

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

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis's request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration in preparation for Hurricane Milton, which is expected to strengthen into a major hurricane and impact Florida in the coming days.

Currently, Milton is expected to make landfall as a major hurricane on Florida's Gulf coast. Milton's anticipated strong winds, torrential rains, and devastating storm surge are likely to wreak havoc across much of Florida. Although our state is familiar with the dangers posed by hurricanes, this major hurricane approaches toward Florida's Gulf coast that recently endured severe impacts from major Hurricane Helene, rendering them particularly vulnerable to catastrophic effects from this approaching storm.

Ensuring that the state has access to the federal resources it needs is imperative to protecting Floridians, property, and our communities. As such, we request that you promptly approve Governor DeSantis's request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Rick Scott  
United States Senator



Marco Rubio  
United States Senator