

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

February 12, 2016

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to urge you to approve Governor Christie's request for a Major Disaster Declaration for 17 of New Jersey's 21 counties affected by the severe winter storm that caused damages to our state from January 22 through January 29, 2016.

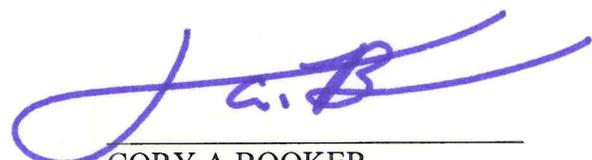
This severe winter storm also known as Jonas dumped upwards of 30 inches of snow in some areas of New Jersey, nearly reaching or exceeding record levels in 12 counties. Even more damaging, high speed winds combined with a near full moon caused a significant storm surge to flood large areas of our coastline. Mass transit services were temporarily suspended, at least 270,000 people lost their power, and homes were flooded. In addition, New Jersey was already recovering from the nor'easter that struck in October causing significant beach erosion and property damage.

With more than \$82 million in damage caused by this storm, New Jersey is seeking a much-needed disaster declaration to assist in the recovery of these hard-hit areas. The devastation endured by New Jersey residents, business owners, and local governments merits a disaster declaration and emergency assistance. Recovery from this storm has been difficult for New Jerseyans, and we urge you to approve this request as soon as possible to ensure the people of New Jersey can begin to rebuild from this storm and mitigate against future disasters.

Thank you in advance for your full consideration of New Jersey's request. We look forward to your prompt action on this important issue.

Sincerely,

  
ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator

  
CORY A BOOKER  
United States Senator

Frank Pallone Jr.  
FRANK PALLONE JR  
Member of Congress

Frank A. LoBiondo  
FRANK LOBIONDO  
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell Jr  
BILL PASCRELL JR  
Member of Congress

Chris Smith  
CHRIS SMITH  
Member of Congress

Albio Sires  
ALBIO SIRES  
Member of Congress

Rodney Frelinghuysen  
RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN  
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman  
BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN  
Member of Congress

Leonard Lance  
LEONARD LANCE  
Member of Congress

Donald Payne, Jr  
DONALD PAYNE, JR  
Member of Congress

Tom Carthage  
TOM MACARTHUR  
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross  
DONALD NORCROSS  
Member of Congress

Scott Garrett  
SCOTT GARRETT  
Member of Congress