

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



CATHARINE M. YOUNG
SENATOR
57TH DISTRICT

CHAIR

HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEGISLATIVE RURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

STANDING COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
FINANCE
HEALTH
INSURANCE
TRANSPORTATION

ALBANY OFFICE
ROOM 307
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-3563
FAX: (518) 426-6905
DISTRICT OFFICE
WESTGATE PLAZA
700 W. STATE STREET
OLEAN, NEW YORK 14760
(716) 372-4901
FAX: (716) 372-5740
1-800-707-0058

October 3, 2011

Honorable Nan Hayworth
Representative, 19th Congressional District
225 Main Street, Room 3232G
Goshen, NY 10924

Honorable Bill Owens
Representative, 23rd Congressional District
120 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13061

Honorable Chris Gibson
Representative, 20th Congressional District
136 Glen Street
Glens Falls, NY 12081

Honorable Richard Hanna
Representative, 24th Congressional District
110 East Genesee Street, Suite 110
Auburn, NY 13021

Honorable Paul Tonko
Representative, 21st Congressional District
Leo O'Brien Federal Office Building, Room 827
Albany, NY 12207

Honorable Ann Marie Buerkle
Representative, 25th Congressional District
100 South Clinton Street, #1340
Syracuse, NY 13261

Honorable Maurice Hinchey
Representative, 22nd Congressional District
100 A Federal Building
Binghamton, NY 13901

Honorable Thomas Reed
Representative 29th Congressional District
89 West Market Street
Corning, NY 14760

Dear Member of the New York Congressional Delegation Suffering Storm Damage:

As Chair of the New York State Senate Housing Committee and as Senate representatives of areas which have been severely affected by Tropical Storms Irene and Lee, we are writing to call upon you to advocate for our constituents who have found their homes uninhabitable or damaged due to the effects of extreme flooding.

Although many individuals are in the process of rebuilding, it has been increasingly clear that a number of affected residences have become uninhabitable due to potentially toxic mold and extensive structural damage. Entire communities have been devastated, many of them

containing low and moderate income residents who are lacking adequate insurance coverage and are unable to rebuild. The costs of the disaster continue to drive up municipal budgets as well, as they rebuild infrastructure and maintain roads and community facilities and provide services to those in need.

We are asking that you work to pass federal legislation which will ensure that these areas receive an additional allocation of federal low income housing tax credits to assist in alleviating the need for safe and affordable housing. There is precedent for federal legislation to provide additional credits for flooding in the Midwest in which was allocated a bonus of \$8 per capita for the years 2008, 2009, and 2010.

Additionally, it is our understanding that the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act provided an unprecedented amount of additional tax credits to Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi as the result of flooding caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma. From 2006-2008 the three states were awarded \$1.075 billion of additional credits per year, for a total of \$3.3 billion of additional tax credits.

Provision of additional tax credits in these ravaged areas will assist in rebuilding and help spur development and assist municipalities by helping to ensure that individuals will remain within their local community. The award of tax credits will also help to spur economic activity and assist New York's job creation efforts.

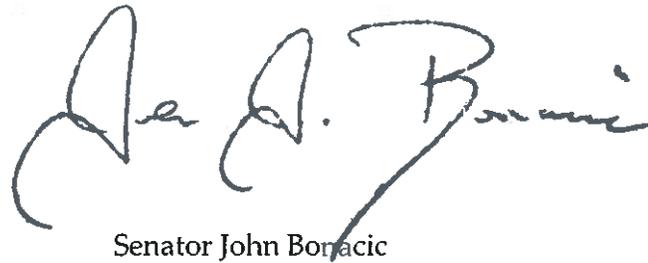
We are asking that you work to ensure this aid is delivered so that it can be expeditiously administered by New York State's Division of Housing and Community Renewal to strengthen our recovery efforts.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Catharine Young
57th Senatorial District



Senator John Boracic
42nd Senatorial District



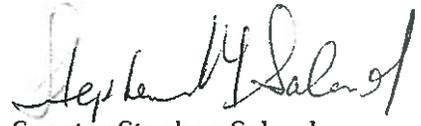
Senator Thomas Libous
52nd Senatorial District



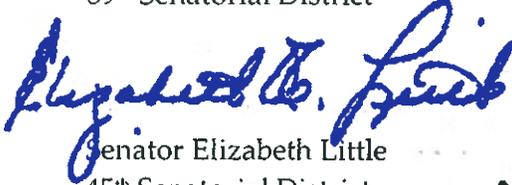
Senator James Seward
51st Senatorial District



Senator William Larkin
39th Senatorial District



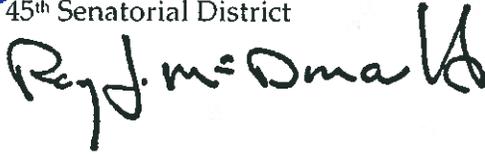
Senator Stephen Saland
41st Senatorial District



Senator Elizabeth Little
45th Senatorial District



Senator Hugh Farley
44th Senatorial District



Senator Roy McDonald
43rd Senatorial District



Senator Thomas O'Mara
53rd Senatorial District

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