

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**JAMES L. SEWARD**  
SENATOR, 51ST DISTRICT

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430 CAPITOL  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
(518) 495-3131

41 S. MAIN STREET  
ONEONTA, NEW YORK 13820  
(607) 432-5524

E-MAIL  
SEWARD@NYSENATE.GOV

WEBSITE  
SEWARD.NYSENATE.GOV

July 25, 2017

Hon. Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor  
Executive Chamber  
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I write on behalf of communities in my district that have experienced severe rainstorms, producing floods and destruction to both public and private property.

Specifically, communities I serve in Cayuga, Cortland, Chenango and Herkimer Counties, to a greater or lesser extent, have witnessed loss of public infrastructure and many homeowners are suffering from repeated flooding.

For homeowners, as you know, insurance policies do not generally cover flooding. For municipal officials replacing culverts and repairing roads, budgets limited by property tax levy cap do not allow for the additional expense they are incurring as they recover from the rains. Municipal officials are using their budgets simply to repair damage, lessening funds otherwise available for ordinary road and bridge repairs.

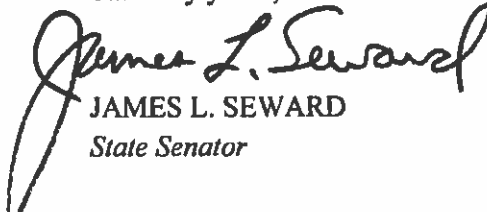
I appreciate the assistance of DHSES in assisting communities tally their damage.

However, I write to ask that the state provide immediate assistance to local governments and to assess how to assist property owners with damage to their property, homes, and businesses.

Thank you for your assistance in this critical issue to our mutual constituents.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

  
JAMES L. SEWARD  
State Senator

JLS:ddjt

