



*State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor*

*Roy Cooper  
Governor*

October 8, 2019

*20301 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, N. C. 27699-0301*

The Hon. Richard Burr  
United States Senate  
217 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Thom Tillis  
United States Senate  
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Burr and Senator Tillis:

It has now been more than a month since Hurricane Dorian ravaged the North Carolina coast on September 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, leaving homes destroyed and livelihoods lost from Cape Fear to Cape Hatteras. Ocracoke Island in Hyde County bore the brunt of Dorian's impact, and its residents continue to face difficult conditions as they await more help. My administration mobilized quickly in the days leading up to and following Hurricane Dorian's impact, and have been working hand in hand with the Hyde County government to provide relief and services. We will continue to do that until Ocracoke and the North Carolina coast are fully recovered.

Last Friday President Trump granted my request for a federal disaster declaration and Public Assistance across 14 North Carolina counties, including Hyde. I've since asked FEMA to expand Public Assistance to 12 additional counties in eastern North Carolina. We're grateful for that public assistance, and it will be vital in making sure that these county governments maintain their financial stability and capacity to continue serving their residents and responding to future disasters.

Now that we can be confident in assistance for local governments, we must ensure the health and safety of individual disaster survivors. I implore you to use your influence to encourage the President to grant Individual Assistance to Carteret, Dare, Hyde, and New Hanover counties, as I requested on September 21. Individual Assistance would provide federal dollars to individuals to cover Temporary Housing Assistance, lodging expenses reimbursement, home repair, home replacement, housing construction, and funds related to other disaster caused losses and damage.

Senator Richard Burr  
Senator Thom Tillis  
October 8, 2019  
Page 2

The storms North Carolina has weathered the last several years have been unprecedented. Last month, we observed the first anniversary of Hurricane Florence's impact, and this week we mark three years since Hurricane Matthew wreaked havoc on our state for days on end. It is our responsibility to make these funds available to survivors, and to ensure the public's understanding of the disaster recovery system that they unfortunately find themselves using time and time again.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" and "C".

Roy Cooper

RAC/sm/jw