

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

September 17, 2018

The Hon. Richard Burr
U.S. Senate
217 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Hon. Thom Tillis
U.S. Senate
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Burr and Senator Tillis:

As the remnants of Hurricane Florence ("Florence") continue to dump rain across portions of our state, I am writing to convey early assessments of its impact on North Carolina. I ask your urgent help in securing resources, and to begin what will be an ongoing conversation around the federal government's role in longer term support for a full recovery for North Carolina.

First, let me thank you for your strong support of the state's response efforts to date. We are coordinating closely with your offices, as well as multiple federal agencies, and significant federal assets including personnel from the Department of Defense and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are hard at work across North Carolina.

In the coming days and weeks, our focus will begin to shift from life-saving operations and immediate emergency management to the months and years long process of recovering from one of the most impactful storms our state has ever faced. Even as our rivers continue to rise and new impacts are felt, we are already able to use flood-modeling tools to estimate the storm's financial impact and our unmet recovery needs.

Based on current modeling, we anticipate the impacts from Florence will result in damage to property across North Carolina that will at least double the financial losses of Hurricane Matthew in 2016. While we will continue working with our FEMA partners to verify financial impact across the state, this storm will no doubt result in one of the most

Sen. Burr and Sen. Tillis

Page 2

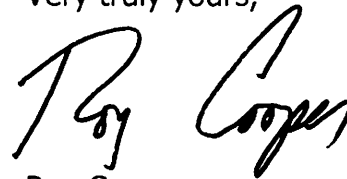
September 17, 2018

significant losses in our state's history. Agricultural losses and economic impact will significantly compound these numbers and will become clear in the weeks to come.

Thank you for your support. North Carolinians are strong, and I know we will exercise patience and persistence as we begin to recover from this disaster.

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, stylized "R" and "C".

Roy Cooper