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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3311

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL
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STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED
PROGRAMS SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

January 13, 2024

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Hon. Deanne Criswell
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 C St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear President Biden and Administrator Criswell:

We are writing to express our concern that in light of the latest natural disaster occurring in California, FEMA might be tempted to pull personnel from Western North Carolina who are still vital to our ongoing recovery efforts. While we sympathize with the people of California who have been devastated by the ongoing wildfires and support them getting the resources they need, we urge you in the strongest manner possible not to draw down manpower from our devastated region.

As members of Congress from the state of North Carolina, we are familiar with the destruction and despair communities experience during and following a natural disaster. We implore you to recognize the urgent needs that remain in North Carolina as a result of Hurricane Helene, and FEMA's attention is still required there.

Now that the \$110 billion disaster relief package has been signed into law, it is critical that FEMA maintain its presence in the affected North Carolina counties to help deploy these resources so that our region recover from the most devastating natural disaster we have ever experienced. We also request that you notify us in advance should you otherwise determine resources should be removed from our great state.

Thank you for understanding the needs of our constituency and keeping all the current FEMA personnel in place.”

Sincerely,



Chuck Edwards
Member of Congress



Thom Tillis
United States Senator



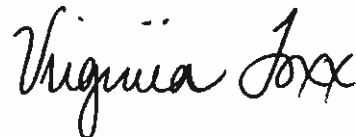
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