

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2509

May 21, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write to support Missouri Governor Mike Kehoe's May 19 request for an emergency disaster declaration, pursuant to the Stafford Act, following devastating tornadoes and storms in the St. Louis region. If approved, this declaration would immediately unlock critical funding to support state and local efforts to remove debris and take emergency protective measures.


As you may know, on May 16, 2025, severe storms and tornadoes struck the St. Louis region and areas of southeast Missouri, claiming at least seven lives and causing widespread damage and destruction. Preliminary damage assessments are slated to begin tomorrow in preparation for the Governor's request for a major disaster declaration. Importantly, Governor Kehoe's emergency declaration request would expedite funding to the State of Missouri in the interim and provide important reinforcement for recovery efforts currently underway.

After touring the devastated neighborhoods, we can personally attest to the scale of the damage and the clear need for the governor's request to unlock this first step of federal assistance to support first responder efforts. We respectfully urge your immediate consideration and approval of this emergency declaration request.

Sincerely,



Josh Hawley
United States Senator



Eric S. Schmitt
United States Senator