

SENATOR JOHN F. CAMPBELL  
SENATE PRESIDENT PRO-TEMPORE

REPRESENTATIVE SHAP SMITH  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

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**STATE OF VERMONT**  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

September 20, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

As you know, Vermont has suffered tremendous damages from Tropical Storm Irene, the likes of which the state has not seen since the Flood of 1927. In the days and weeks following the storm, Vermonters have come together to rebuild their communities. Our state has always faced its challenges head on and the aftermath of Irene is no exception.

Unfortunately, the great efforts of volunteers, non-profits, and state and local governments, cannot meet the full extent of the needs of our state. We write today to respectfully request that the House pass legislation to fully fund federal disaster assistance.

In an already difficult economic climate, Irene has forced businesses to shut their doors while they wait to rebuild, and many families are facing storm related layoffs. Many of Vermont's roads and bridges have sustained significant damage affecting transit routes for commuters, businesses and tourists. Countless individuals have seen their homes and belongings damaged or destroyed and many farmers lost their crops at the height of the growing season.

The State of Vermont is committed to doing everything in its power to help individuals and businesses rebuild after Irene. We ask that you extend that same commitment to our state and the other states affected by natural disasters this year. With Fall upon us and Winter just around the corner, we ask that you move swiftly to pass a bill that replenishes federal disaster relief funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shap Smith".

Representative Shap Smith  
Speaker of the House

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Campbell".

Senator John Campbell  
Senate President Pro-Tempore

CC: Senator Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader  
Representative Eric Cantor, House Majority Leader  
Representative Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader  
Senator Patrick Leahy, Vermont  
Senator Bernard Sanders, Vermont  
Representative Peter Welch, At-Large, Vermont