

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

July 24, 2023

The Honorable Ned Lamont  
Governor of Connecticut  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Lamont,


We write to strongly support your ongoing efforts in addressing widespread flood damage across the State of Connecticut, including your request for Secretary Vilsack to issue a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretarial Disaster Designation for all impacted counties. Expedient action is necessary to support our agricultural industry. Thank you, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, and Commissioner Hurlburt for efficiently assessing the damage and making this request. We have heard from growers across our state who have incurred significant losses and urgently need assistance.

As you know, significant wind and rainfall from heavy storms has caused serious damage to our agricultural industry, including the destruction of hundreds of acres of vegetables and fruits right before harvest. For several farmers, the entirety of their crops will be lost this season. We strongly support your request for a disaster designation so our hard-hit farmers and growers can obtain emergency financial assistance to overcome the significant losses and stay in business.

In addition, the Connecticut delegation in Washington stands ready to do what is needed to get farmers the relief they need and deserve. As you know, Connecticut and New England producers face unique challenges and may require support beyond what is currently funded or authorized. We are committed to working with you and your administration, as well as our farmers, to identify what recovery efforts are needed and how we can deliver it.


Thank you.

Sincerely,



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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



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Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



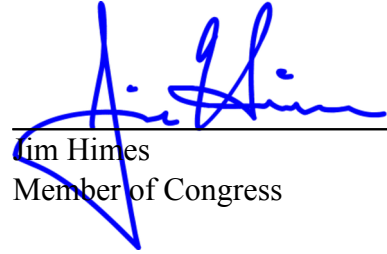
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Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



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Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress