Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 20, 2018

Brock Long Administrator Federal Emergency Management Agency 500 C Street, SW, 8th Floor Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Long:

We write to urge the Federal Emergency Management Agency to work closely with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to fully and expeditiously staff and support the Preliminary Damage Assessment process. Currently, MEMA is documenting county snowfall totals, collecting storm costs, conducting site visits in areas, and preparing a written request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been impacted by significant snow storms that caused coastal flooding, seawall damage, and beach erosion. Hundreds of residents have reported significant storm damage to their homes and properties. More than 200,000 people have experienced power outages. Road and air travel in the Commonwealth has also been disrupted, with more than a thousand flights being cancelled as a result of the most recent blizzard.

The MEMA team is currently conducting a Preliminary Damage Assessment to determine the extent of infrastructure damage, the amount of debris produced in many communities throughout the Commonwealth, and the disaster responses and recovery costs necessary for responding to the aftermath of the storms. Federal assistance will likely be needed to help the Commonwealth repair public facilities and infrastructure damaged or destroyed by the snowfall, as well as to recoup the costs of snow removal and road treatment.

We thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Warren United States Senator

Markey Edward J. Markey

United States Senator

Richard E. Neal

Member of Congress

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Michael E. Capuano Member of Congress

Niki Tsongas Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy III Member of Congress

Seth Moulton Member of Congress

James P. McGovern Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch Member of Congress

William R. Keating Member of Congress

Katherine Clark Member of Congress