

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 1, 2024

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

Dear Mr. President,

I write to request that Hamilton, Gilchrist, Columbia, and Suwannee counties be included in your Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Florida issued on September 28, 2024, for Hurricane Helene. These counties were included in Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' request for an expedited Major Disaster Declaration that was sent on September 28, 2024, but were not included in your declaration.

On September 23, 2024, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency in 41 Florida counties, which was expanded to 61 counties on September 24, 2024. Additionally, Governor DeSantis requested a pre-landfall Emergency Declaration for the State of Florida, which you approved for Florida counties in the path of Hurricane Helene, including Hamilton, Gilchrist, Columbia, and Suwannee counties.

On September 28, 2024, Governor DeSantis requested an expedited Major Disaster Declaration for 25 counties impacted by the hurricane, including Hamilton, Gilchrist, Columbia, and Suwannee counties. The Governor's request included Individual Assistance designation, and Categories A–G, including direct Federal assistance under the Public Assistance program for the state of Florida. While I appreciate the 17 counties that received a disaster declaration, other counties in Florida's Third Congressional District have experienced extensive damage and need Federal assistance to respond to Hurricane Helene.

I have been on the ground in these counties and have witnessed firsthand the damage brought on by Hurricane Helene. As such, I request that you amend the Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Florida from September 28, 2024, to include Hamilton, Gilchrist, Columbia, and Suwannee counties.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kat Cammack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kat" and last name "Cammack" clearly visible.

Kat Cammack
Member of Congress
Proudly Serving Florida's 3rd Congressional District