

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

September 8, 2017

President Donald Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

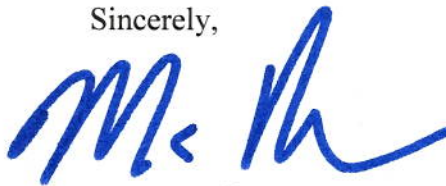
Dear Mr. President:

I write in full support of Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola, Jr.'s request for an emergency declaration for the Seminole Tribe of Florida in anticipation of Hurricane Irma. The tribe's resources are not equipped to handle a storm of this severity, and federal assistance will be crucial in order to take proactive measures. I greatly appreciate your expedited approval of pre-land fall emergency declaration for the state of Florida, and I urge you to also approve Chairman Osceola's request for the Seminole Tribe, as he has requested.

If Hurricane Irma makes landfall at the southern end of the Florida peninsula, and travels up the state as forecasted, this historic storm is projected to threaten significant number of reservations of the Seminole Tribe, including: Big Cypress, Brighton, Coconut Creek, David Boulevard, Fort Pierce, Hollywood, Immokalee and Tampa. In order to help protect the people and rich history of the tribe, proactive action is required from the federal government to ensure a swift and effective response.

Coordination and resources are needed to assist the Seminole Tribe before the storm hits to minimize the loss of life and property. I urge you to approve Chairman Osceola's request for an emergency declaration in order to assist the Tribe in preparing for this catastrophic storm.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator