

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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

September 13, 2017

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

Dear Mr. President:

We write in full support of Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola, Jr.'s request for an expedited major disaster declaration for the Seminole Tribe of Florida in response to Hurricane Irma. We greatly appreciate your same-day approval for an emergency declaration for the Seminole Tribe of Florida on September 8, 2017, and urge you to also approve Chairman Osceola's most recent request in similar fashion.

As you are fully aware, Hurricane Irma made landfall in Florida as a category four storm early Sunday morning. The storm impacted several reservations of the Seminole Tribe, including: Big Cypress, Brighton, Coconut Creek, David Boulevard, Fort Pierce, Hollywood, Immokalee and Tampa. An expedited major disaster declaration is needed to ensure a swift and effective response.

Given the storm's impact on Florida tribal lands, federal assistance will be imperative to assisting the tribe in the aftermath of the storm. We urge you to approve Chairman Osceola's request for an expedited major disaster declaration to guarantee a timely recovery for the members of the tribe.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator



Bill Nelson  
U.S. Senator