

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 15, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Chairman
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senators Schumer, McConnell, Wyden and Crapo:

We write to you about the need for the Senate to expeditiously consider the bipartisan Federal Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2023 (H.R. 5863). Although the Senate was unable to pass the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 (H.R. 7024), millions of Americans are still in need of federal disaster tax relief. The need for this relief cannot be overstated, and that is reflected in the unprecedented discharge petition the House used to pass this legislation. This bipartisan effort was the result of 29 Republicans and 189 Democrats. After this successful discharge petition, the bill was scheduled for a vote on May 21, 2024, when it passed 382-7.

This was the third successful discharge petition in the 21st century. The previous two, in 2002 and 2015, were both measures taken up by the Senate and signed into law by the President. It is our hope that the historic significance of our discharge petition on the Federal Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2023 demonstrates to the Senate the weight of its importance.

Through no fault of their own, too many Americans have incurred thousands of dollars in disaster-related expenses. Many others are also facing unfair tax burdens as a result of being heavily taxed on rightful compensation from being the victim of a wildfire disaster.

The Federal Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2023 is a comprehensive bill that includes coverage to over 300 disasters across 47 states as well as addressing both wildfire payments and the East Palestine, Ohio train derailment. This bill, and the bills precursing it, predate the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 (H.R. 7024). It is the bipartisan result of representatives joining efforts to deliver disaster relief for American taxpayers after a years-long effort independent of the bipartisan tax package.

To provide some brief history on disaster tax relief initiatives:

- On January 10, 2023, Reps. Doug LaMalfa and Mike Thompson introduced H.R. 176 to exclude from gross income of a taxpayer the compensation victims receive in connection to a qualifying wildfire disaster.
- On March 1, 2023, Rep. Bill Johnson introduced H.R. 1270 to exclude from gross income the compensation resulting from the East Palestine train derailment on February 3, 2023.
- On March 1, 2023, Rep. Greg Steube introduced H.R. 1331 to treat Hurricane Ian as a qualified disaster area for purposes of the disaster-related casualty loss tax deduction.

All of our constituents know the devastating nature of disaster recovery all too well. It is our sincere hope that the Senate will take up the Federal Disaster Tax Relief of 2023 on unanimous consent to swiftly pass this bill so the President can sign it into law quickly.

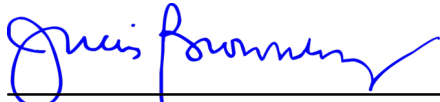
Sincerely,



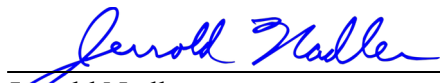
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



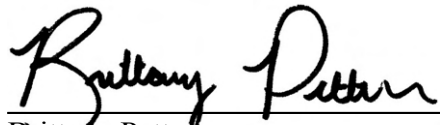
Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



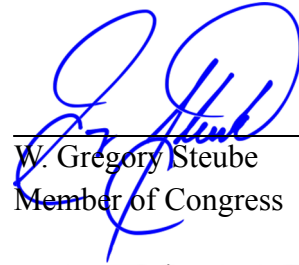
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



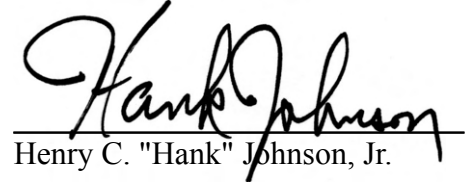
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress




Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds
Member of Congress



Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



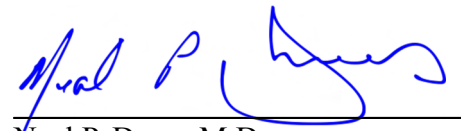
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



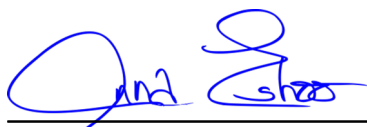
Katie Porter
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



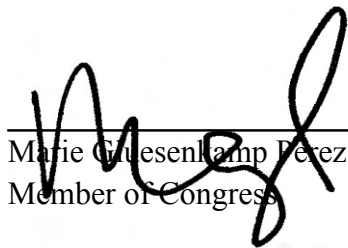
Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
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Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
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Marie Glesne Perez
Member of Congress



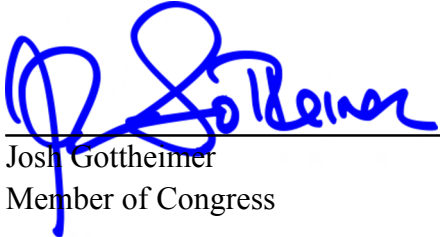
Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress



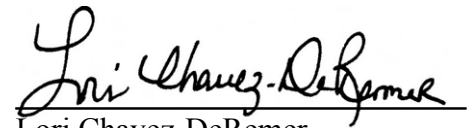
Eric Swalwell
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Stephanie Bice
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Josh Gottheimer
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Lori Chavez-DeRemer
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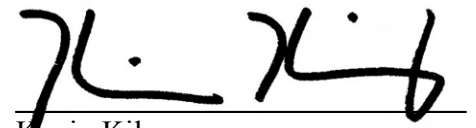
Danny K. Davis
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Kevin Mullin
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Maxine Waters
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Kevin Kiley
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Andy Barr
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Brian Fitzpatrick
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Mark DeSaulnier
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Don Bacon
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Ed Case

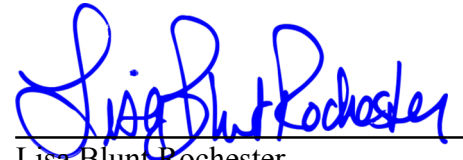
Ed Case
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Vern Buchanan
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Adam B. Schiff
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Lisa Blunt Rochester
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Juan Vargas

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Joe Neguse
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Dina Titus

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Terri A. Sewell
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Gabe Vasquez
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Shri Thanedar
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Sylvia R. Garcia


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Member of Congress



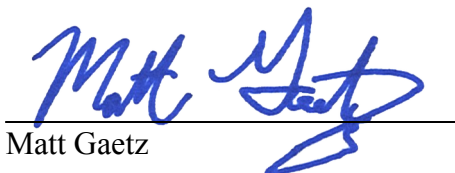
Troy Carter
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Jimmy Panetta
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C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress

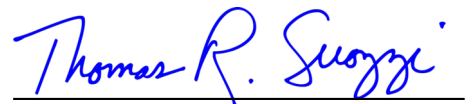

Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress

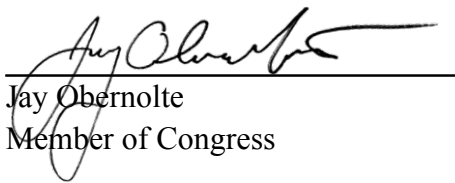

Eric Sorensen
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Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Josh Harder
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Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

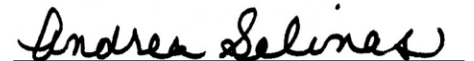

Jay Obernolte
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
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Robert Garcia
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Bill Posey
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Sara Jacobs
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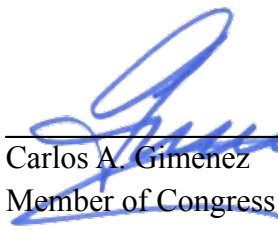

Andrea Salinas
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Kat Cammack
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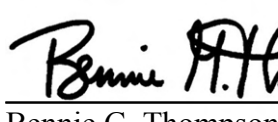

Nancy Mace
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Mike Garcia
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Darren Soto
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Carlos A. Gimenez
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Morgan Luttrell
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Bennie G. Thompson
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Laurel M. Lee
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Bonnie Watson Coleman
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Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



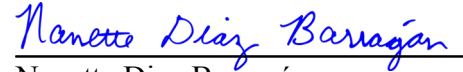
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



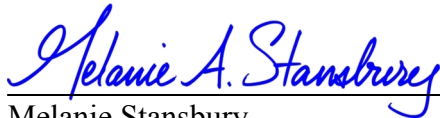
Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



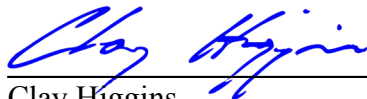
Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress



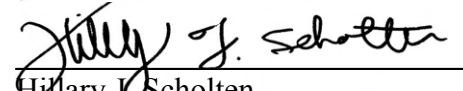
Melanie Stansbury
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Jared Moskowitz
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Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
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MARK TAKANO
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