



## THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

July 27, 2017

Hon. Andrew Cuomo  
Governor, New York State  
The Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

We are writing on behalf of our constituents in Erie and Wyoming counties impacted by severe weather that produced damaging tornadoes and torrential rain and flooding on July 20, 2017. As residents and municipalities work to clean up the damage caused by these storms, we are requesting a disaster declaration and the release of emergency state funding to assist in the recovery effort.

The National Weather Service has confirmed three tornadoes struck the region, including two in communities that we represent. An EF2 tornado with winds of 110-135 mph hit the Town of Hamburg and an EF1 tornado with winds of 95 mph was recorded in the Town of Holland. As you know from visiting the area, both storms caused extensive damage to homes, businesses, trees and power lines. Cleanup costs are estimated in the tens of thousands of dollars as residents and local governments work to recover from these devastating storms.

In addition to the tornadoes, Western New York was also hit with heavy rains on July 13 and July 20 that caused flash flooding throughout Wyoming County, especially in the towns of Attica and Bennington. The Director of Fire and Emergency Management for Wyoming County estimates \$2.3 million in damage to public infrastructure. In many cases, repair costs will exceed municipal budgets for road repair. Dozens of homes and businesses were also flooded, with some reporting 2-6 feet of water inside their buildings.

Since taking office, your administration has assisted communities across the state in recovering from natural disasters and other weather related emergencies. We ask that you consider the residents and communities of Western New York who are in need of help in recovering from these damaging storms.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Patrick M. Gallivan in blue ink.

Patrick M. Gallivan  
State Senate, 59<sup>th</sup> District

Handwritten signature of Christopher L. Jacobs in blue ink.

Christopher L. Jacobs  
State Senate, 60<sup>th</sup> District

Handwritten signature of David J. DiPietro in blue ink.

David J. DiPietro  
State Assembly, 147<sup>th</sup> District

Handwritten signature of Sean M. Ryan in blue ink.

Sean M. Ryan  
State Assembly, 149<sup>th</sup> District

Handwritten signature of Michael P. Kearns in blue ink.

Michael P. Kearns  
State Assembly, 142<sup>nd</sup> District