

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in strong support of the appeal and reconsideration requests submitted by the State of Hawai'i to FEMA regarding eligibility for Public Assistance Category G and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) authorization for Major Disaster Declaration DR-4909-HI.

We appreciate your quick action to approve the disaster declaration on April 7, 2026, for the back-to-back Kona Low storms that occurred between March 10 and March 24. These storms caused widespread flooding and property damage throughout the State of Hawai'i.

The state's appeal and reconsideration requests pertain to two specific forms of assistance under the Stafford Act. The appeal for Public Assistance Category G has been updated with additional data, validating more than \$20 million in quantifiable damage, including more than \$15 million in damage to airport grounds infrastructure and nearly \$5 million of damage to parks, trails, cultural facilities, and early warning systems. This damage includes structural pavement failure of taxiways at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport in Honolulu, the state's primary gateway for tourists, residents, business travelers, and military service members. The reconsideration request for the HMGP authorization would enable the state to invest in additional mitigation projects that would reduce long-term disaster risk. The state has a robust list of potential projects that would reduce future flood risk and therefore reduce damage from future storms.

We believe that the state's appeal and reconsideration requests address critical needs that are necessary and appropriate uses of FEMA disaster assistance funds. They also address infrastructure that is of particular importance to the U.S. Government, especially the military services, which make extensive use of Hawai'i public airport infrastructure.

We respectfully ask for your support of the state's appeal and reconsideration request.

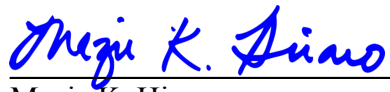
Sincerely,



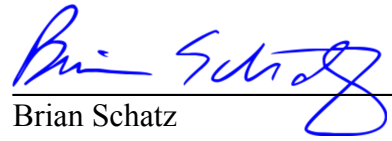
Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Ed Case
Member of Congress



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator