

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

July 4, 2021

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration in expectation of Tropical Storm Elsa. The current forecast predicts the storm will impact communities in Florida as early as tomorrow. We request you promptly approve Governor DeSantis' request to authorize the necessary federal resources.

In recent years, Florida has experienced major storms, including Hurricanes Sally, Isaias, Michael, and Irma. In addition, Florida currently faces a unique challenge as its emergency response agencies, along with federal and other partners, deal with the aftermath of the tragic collapse of Champlain Towers South in Surfside. Coupled with the COVID-19 pandemic, federal resources are needed to ensure that the response to, and preparation for, Tropical Storm Elsa are carried out efficiently. Comprehensive preparation has proven essential to protecting property, public health, and the safety of potential victims of a major storm. As such, we urge you to approve the State of Florida's request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration for 15 counties to ensure the safety of Floridians in the storm's path.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Rick Scott
U.S. Senator