

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Steve King today announced the issuing of a major disaster declaration for the State of Iowa. This declaration will benefit Iowa counties that recently suffered significant damage from severe winter weather during storms occurring December 23 – 27, 2009. Counties designated for public assistance include Adair, Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Emmet, Franklin, Fremont, Guthrie, Harrison, Ida, Monona, Page, Pottawattamie, Sac, Shelby, Sioux and Woodbury.

“With a storm of this magnitude, the approval of a Public Assistance Declaration is necessary,” King said. “Even though most of the affected counties were in the Fifth Congressional District, I would like to thank the Iowa House delegation for coming together on this issue. Our local governments also deserve praise for their efforts in dealing with the storm. While there is still much work to be done, we cannot possibly calculate the value of the work already accomplished by our private citizens. Even storms of historic proportions are no match for western Iowans with resilient attitudes, strong work ethics and great pride in our communities.”

On January 29, House Members of the Iowa Congressional delegation sent the following letter to President Barack Obama asking that a major disaster declaration request made by Iowa Governor Chet Culver be approved. The letter follows:

January 29, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.  
Dear Mr. President,

We respectfully request that you grant the request made January 28, 2010, by Iowa Governor Chet Culver, for a declaration of a major disaster for the State of Iowa as a result of damages from a severe winter storm and snow storm that began December 23 and continued through December 27, 2009, in Adair, Audubon, Buena Vista, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Emmet, Franklin, Fremont, Guthrie, Harrison, Ida, Lyon, Mills, Monona, Osceola, Page, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Pottawattamie, Sac, Shelby, Sioux, and Woodbury Counties. Governor Culver has determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments and that supplementary Federal assistance is needed.

We thank you for your prompt consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Steve King  
Tom Latham  
Leonard Boswell  
Bruce Braley  
Dave Loebsack  
Members of Congress