

*14 counties are eligible for FSA assistance for damages and losses caused by flooding*

Washington D.C.- Congressman Steve King (R-IA) announces that the United States Department of Agriculture has granted Iowa's request for a Secretarial disaster declaration. King led efforts in the House of Representatives in support of the state's request, and he secured the support of the entire House delegation on a letter to Secretary Vilsack urging the granting of the agriculture disaster declaration.

"The Missouri River flood has caused extensive damage to farmland, and it has left Iowa's agricultural producers facing significant losses," said King. "The issuance of the Secretarial disaster designation will allow farm operators in 14 counties to apply for FSA emergency loans, and it will allow farmers to participate in the SURE program to help offset the financial damage caused by losing crops to the flood. I want to thank Secretary Vilsack for making the Secretarial disaster declaration, and I appreciate the fact that the designation was granted so quickly."

The Secretarial disaster declaration covers both primary and contiguous counties that have sustained flood related damage and losses. Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury counties are designated as primary counties, while Cass, Cherokee, Crawford, Ida, Montgomery, Page, Plymouth and Shelby counties are covered as contiguous counties.

In order to receive emergency loan assistance, farmers in eligible counties must apply within eight months of the date of the Secretarial disaster declaration. Farmers who want additional information about available programs and eligibility requirements are encouraged to contact their local FSA offices.

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