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March 25, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Subject: Support for Major Disaster Declaration

Dear President Biden,

I am writing in strong support of the State of California's request for a major disaster declaration, which includes public assistance for Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties.

I am grateful for the swift support your Administration has afforded to our region in the wake of the severe winter storms. However, public assistance is necessary to help the region recover.

In the City of San Luis Obispo, the storm caused severe damage to eight steel firehouse rollup bay doors. In Santa Barbara County, the County experienced severe cold temperatures, snow in higher elevations, flooding, among other extreme weather. At the San Marcos Pass, Santa Barbara County rainfall gauges measured nine inches of rain and four inches of rain in the City of Santa Barbara within a 24-hour period. This prompted Santa Barbara County to issue a flash flood warning. Additionally, Mission Canyon and Mission Creek experienced severe erosion, causing retaining walls to collapse. In Ventura County, residents also experienced extensive flooding. This led to serious damage to our roadways, bridges, and other water infrastructure. Mudslides blocked State Route 33 in the Los Padres National Forest.

Again, I support Governor Newsom's request for a major disaster declaration and ask that you make all federal resources necessary available. I stand ready to provide any support to you in expeditiously approving this request and provide the necessary resources to the impacted communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S.O. Carbajal".

Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress