
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8013

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Senators T. Sheldon, Rasmussen, Horn and Sheahan

Read first time 03/23/1999. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Parts of Western Washington received the highest amount of
9 rainfall in state history between the months of November and February,
10 raining for ninety-one consecutive days and producing over fifty-five
11 inches of rain in King County; and

12 WHEREAS, Parts of the Olympic Peninsula, i.e., Lilliwaup, received
13 over one hundred fourteen inches of rain in a four-month period; and

14 WHEREAS, Sixty-one homes have been damaged and twenty-six homes are
15 uninhabitable in the area known as Carlyon Beach, with property losses
16 estimated at over ten million dollars; and

17 WHEREAS, Ground water problems will cost over two million dollars
18 to repair and currently no water or sewer systems are in operation; and

19 WHEREAS, Shoreline bulkheads are failing, and public facilities
20 expenses are estimated at one million dollars, excluding the cost of
21 geo-technical assistance; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington State Department of Transportation estimates of
2 highway damages reach eleven million two hundred two thousand dollars,
3 and ten million dollars of those damages are in Mason County alone; and

4 WHEREAS, Local government estimates of damages to county roads and
5 city streets reach seven million three hundred ninety-two thousand four
6 hundred thirty-five dollars; and

7 WHEREAS, Governor Locke's emergency proclamation now includes six
8 western counties and directs state government to support emergency
9 response activities as needed around the state and authorizes the
10 Washington Military Department and its Emergency Management Division to
11 coordinate state agencies in the affected areas; and

12 WHEREAS, County officials are continuing to assess damages to
13 determine sufficient damage for justification of federal assistance;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, When damage from an event is so great it is beyond the
16 capability of local and state government to repair, the Governor can
17 ask the President to declare a disaster, thus making a variety of
18 federal disaster assistance programs available to help restore
19 communities to their predisaster condition;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that if the
21 Governor requests federal assistance, the President and the Federal
22 Emergency Management Agency will be sensitive to the needs of
23 Washington's citizens affected by the record rainfall.

24 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
25 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
26 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
27 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
28 State of Washington.

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