

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 9, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500-0001

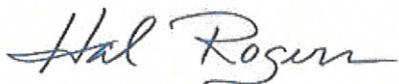
Dear President Trump,

We write to respectfully urge your timely and favorable consideration of the February 6, 2026, request from Governor Andy Beshear requesting a Major Disaster Declaration for the Commonwealth of Kentucky due to the severe winter storm system that began January 23, 2026, and concluded February 2, 2026. This event was caused by a polar vortex system and produced heavy ice and extreme cold temperatures, resulting in impassible roadways, loss of utilities, and disruptions in critical government services. The Kentucky National Guard, Kentucky State Police, and local law enforcement and volunteer fire departments performed more than 1,000 wellness checks. However, further federal assistance is necessary given the widespread nature of this disaster.

Tragically, 21 Kentuckians are confirmed dead. Hundreds of homes and businesses have been impacted, with peak electrical outages impacting over 75,000 connections. Critical infrastructure has been severely damaged. Many counties reported closure of government offices for up to 5 days, and mail distribution was halted in at least 66 counties. Gas stations experienced shortages, and emergency response vehicles struggled to reach those in need of medical and firefighting assistance.

We appreciate your consideration of this request, which will provide assistance to communities in every corner of Kentucky during this critical time of need. Thank you in advance for your timely action on this matter.

Sincerely,



Harold Rogers
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Mitch McConnell
UNITED STATES SENATE



Rand Paul, M.D.
UNITED STATES SENATE



Brett Guthrie
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Thomas Massie
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Andy Barr
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



James Comer
MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Morgan McGarvey
UNITED STATES SENATE