

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

August 27, 2023

President Joe Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration for 33 of Florida's counties due to Tropical Storm Idalia, which is expected to strengthen into a hurricane and impact Florida in the coming days.

Currently, Tropical Storm Idalia is expected to make landfall on Florida's west coast by Wednesday morning. In addition to strong winds and heavy rain, this approaching storm is expected to bring severe storm surge and flooding. While Florida is no stranger to hurricanes, this storm approaches less than a year after Hurricane Ian brought widespread damage, and from which the state is still recovering.

Ensuring that the state has access to the federal resources it needs is imperative to protecting Floridians, property, and our communities. As such, we request that you promptly approve Governor DeSantis' request for a pre-landfall emergency declaration.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio  
U.S. Senator



Rick Scott  
U.S. Senator