

## United States Senate

April 20, 2018

The Hon. Linda McMahon  
Administrator  
Small Business Administration  
409 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator McMahon:

I am writing to express strong support for the communities on the islands of Kauai and Oahu that were recently impacted by severe flooding and ask for your assistance. As local emergency management agencies continue to assess the damage, I am grateful for the Hawaii District Office of the Small Business Administration (SBA) and its active engagement to support impacted communities. I urge you to support their efforts to identify any opportunities to maximize the effectiveness of the SBA's relief efforts and to quickly approve any requests from the State of Hawaii for disaster assistance.

Last weekend, April 13th and 14th, historic precipitation descended on the islands of Kauai and Oahu and caused extreme flooding. More heavy rain is forecasted for April 19th and 20th, which is likely to cause further flooding. The severe flooding has shut down businesses, and damaged homes, private property, and public infrastructure. I ask that you to work closely with the State of Hawaii and be as flexible as possible when the state submits a request for disaster assistance for the communities impacted by the flooding.

As residents prepare for more storms and costs continue to grow, federal assistance from SBA will be vital in ensuring that communities are able to reopen businesses, repair infrastructure, and clean up debris. I hope that SBA's assistance will also help residents and communities to build stronger resilience for severe weather events in the future.

I urge you to stand ready to support any requests from the State for expedited disaster assistance.

Sincerely,



BRIAN SCHATZ  
United States Senator