



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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SPEAKER

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January 2, 2013

Hon. John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner:

Like many Americans, we are outraged and disappointed that the U.S. House of Representatives left the current session without appropriating the \$60.4 billion in emergency spending for victims of Hurricane Sandy.

There was support for this package on both sides of the aisle, and it's a disgrace that the funding was neither allocated nor even voted on by the House. Congress must make this their first priority and vote on it immediately when they return to Washington.

Thousands of Americans are still without homes, and hundreds of small businesses still can't open their doors due to the severe damage caused by this storm. The human and economic impact of Sandy is so severe and evident that it's impossible to fathom why the House left Washington without taking action to assist our region.

Over 3,000 New Yorkers have signed the NYC Council's online petition calling on Congress to help our fellow Americans in need in the wake of one of the worst natural disasters this country has ever seen.

After Hurricane Katrina and the San Francisco 1989 Earthquake, it took 10 days or less for Congress to appropriate emergency funding. It has been over 60 days since Hurricane Sandy devastated this region, claiming over 100 lives and destroying countless homes and businesses up and down the coast.

It's heartless and unfair that those affected by Sandy will have to wait until Congress convenes to allocate these essential funds.

We urge the House to pass this package as early as possible in the new session. The future of our region depends on the immediate allocation of this emergency funding.

Sincerely,

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker

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Council Member

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