

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 9, 2019

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Mr. President:

We are writing in response to the cruel and dishonest statement you issued today regarding wildfires in California.

According to your statement, posted on Twitter, you intend to withhold disaster assistance funding from California communities struggling to recover from wildfires until changes are made to state-level forest management policies.

The casual cruelty of this threat is appalling. Thousands of people have lost everything: family members, homes, property, lives. These families deserve empathy and support from their President. Instead, you issued a callous and unfeeling threat to make a political point.

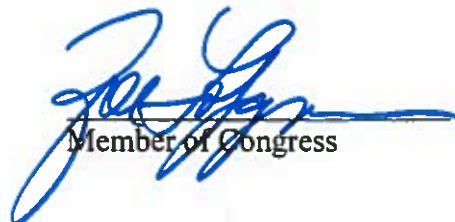
Your statement was also dishonest. The federal government oversees almost 60 percent of forestland in California, and several of the costliest, largest or deadliest fires in history – including last year's Camp and Carr Fires – ignited on federal land. The federal government is responsible for these lands, not the State of California, and blaming these fires on state-level forest management is utterly false.

We urge you to retract your misleading statement. We also request, in the strongest possible terms, that you immediately restore federal support to Americans recovering from wildfires.

Sincerely,



MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress

  
Member of Congress

Mark Takano  
Member of Congress CA-41

Judy Chu CA-27  
Member of Congress

Gene H. Rostenkowski IL-32  
Member of Congress

R. L. Rusk CA-28  
Member of Congress

Jimmy Gandy  
Member of Congress

Julia Forman  
Member of Congress

Linda J. Sanchez  
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

Lou Correa  
Member of Congress

Ted N. Leland CA-33  
Member of Congress

Mike Levin CA-49  
Member of Congress

Rail M. Hyden  
Member of Congress

Ami Bern  
Member of Congress

Jimmy McHugh  
Member of Congress

Tony Cardenal  
Member of Congress

Erin Gruwell  
Member of Congress

Donis Matsui  
Member of Congress

Paul G. Zinke  
Member of Congress

Mark DeL. L.  
Member of Congress

Jim R. CA-20  
THCC!  
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Member of Congress

L.O. Ch. CA-24  
Member of Congress

Carol H.  
Member of Congress

Julie Spivey  
Member of Congress

Anna P. CA 35  
Member of Congress

Hakey Ronda CA-48  
Member of Congress

Bob Sten CA 30  
Member of Congress

W. L. CA 21  
Member of Congress

Paul Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Baragán CA 44  
Member of Congress

J. A. CA-16  
Member of Congress

J. G. Mendez CA 3  
Member of Congress

  
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