

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR
HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE

EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY, AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
CHAIR EMERITUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0307

WEBSITE: <http://grijalva.house.gov/>

1511 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone (202) 225-2435 | Fax (202) 225-1541

101 W. Irvington Rd., BLDG. 4
Tucson, AZ 85714
Phone (520) 622-6788 | Fax (520) 622-0198

146 N. State Ave.
P.O. Box 4105
Somerton, AZ 85350
Phone (928) 343-7933 | Fax (928) 343-7949

1412 N. Central Ave., Suite B
Avondale, AZ 85323
Phone (623) 536-3388 | Fax (623) 535-7479

FACEBOOK: [Facebook.com/Rep.Grijalva](https://www.facebook.com/Rep.Grijalva)
TWITTER: [Twitter.com/RepRaulGrijalva](https://twitter.com/RepRaulGrijalva)
INSTAGRAM: [Instagram.com/RepRaulGrijalva](https://www.instagram.com/RepRaulGrijalva)

August 27, 2021

The Honorable Doug Ducey
Governor of Arizona
State Capitol
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Ducey,

I am calling on you to request consideration for commencement of a Presidential disaster declaration for the State of Arizona to secure federal assistance for Gila Bend. As you know, all requests for a declaration by the President that a major disaster exists shall be made by the Governor of the affected State. Monsoon rains in Gila Bend caused immense flooding and damage, leaving individuals stranded on roofs, and sadly taking several lives. Maricopa County declared a local emergency and you issued a state of emergency, yet it is my understanding that Arizona has not formally commenced the federal declaration process and that a preliminary damage assessment has not been conducted.

This process should begin immediately so that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may understand the extent of damage, assess the impact on private and public properties, and determine the types of federal assistance that may be available. Gila Bend has suffered an enormous and shocking loss with many residents out of their homes and many businesses destroyed. In the aftermath of the storm, it has become clear that the recovery needs of Gila Bend are beyond their existing capabilities. We must do everything in our power to ensure they have access to available federal resources to help in this regard.

I ask that you work immediately with the FEMA Regional Administrator and Arizona Department of Emergency Management to move forward to provide the fullest recovery possible for Arizona residents.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress