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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6025

<http://appropriations.senate.gov>

September 8, 2020

The Honorable Emily Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

Hurricane Laura made landfall in Louisiana on August 27, unleashing catastrophic damage throughout the State of Louisiana. With maximum wind speeds of 170 miles per hour, Hurricane Laura was the strongest storm to hit Louisiana in 160 years.

The Edwin F. Hunter, Jr. U.S. Courthouse in Lake Charles suffered extensive damage throughout the facility. As a result, numerous Federal tenants, including United States District Court operations for the Western District of Louisiana, are without suitable courtroom and office space for the foreseeable future.

Following numerous conversations with court personnel and other Federal employees who work in the building, it has become abundantly clear to me that the devastating impacts of this storm warrant a new Federal courthouse in Lake Charles.

I look forward to working with you in my capacity as Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government to identify the appropriate resource needs for a new courthouse in Lake Charles and secure the necessary funding for this courthouse and other Federal facilities damaged by Hurricane Laura.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations