

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 29, 2014

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

RE: Urge Swift Action on Flood Insurance – Reconsider Your Opposition to Flood Rate Fix

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As members of the Florida Congressional Delegation, we are very concerned about the comments you made last week that you will not allow the House to consider the bill to prevent skyrocketing and unreasonable flood insurance rates that is likely to pass the U.S. Senate soon. On behalf of the millions of families and small business owners we represent, we urge you to reconsider.

We have been pressing Congress to act for months, working on a bipartisan basis to develop a variety of solutions that will protect families and small businesses from the arbitrary and unintended increases of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Act. Many of us heard from our colleagues that you and the Majority Leader were considering action so we were extremely disappointed to read your statement last week, which also received extensive coverage this weekend in newspapers across the state.

The unreasonable flood insurance increases are particularly harmful to middle class families across Florida; however, this is a national issue. One hundred and eighty bipartisan members have cosponsored the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2013, demonstrating broad-based support for moving forward *now*.

Expeditious action is necessary because huge flood insurance bills are now coming due. We share the frustration of our neighbors that many of the changes adopted by FEMA are outside the original intent of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. Unless you take up a solution now, greater economic harm will be inflicted in Florida and around the country.

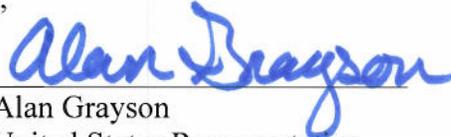
Therefore, we urge you to reconsider your opposition to the bipartisan legislation that would halt these outrageous rate hikes and establish a permanent fix that considers affordability. The large and growing group of bipartisan members who have worked together to remedy the

flood insurance rate increases have rallied around the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2013. The Act is close to Senate passage. Listen to the families, small business owners, Realtors, chambers of commerce and retirees across America who agree that the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2013 is the right approach.

Sincerely,



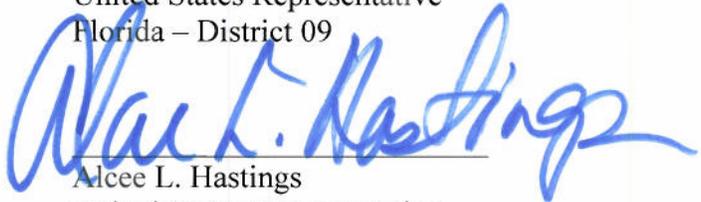
Kathy Castor
United States Representative
Florida – District 14



Alan Grayson
United States Representative
Florida – District 09



Corrine Brown
United States Representative
Florida – District 05



Alcee L. Hastings
United States Representative
Florida – District 20



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Florida – District 21



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