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

September 27, 2017

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The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you know, the residents of Puerto Rico are suffering and are in desperate need of assistance.

The Marine Merchant Act of 1920, also known as the Jones Act, requires that all waterborne shipping between points in the United States be carried by vessels built in the United States and owned and operated by Americans. Given the extent of the hurricane devastation suffered by residents of Puerto Rico – fellow Americans – I urge your Administration consider issuing the appropriate temporary waivers of Jones Act requirements to help speed up recovery efforts and the delivery of much needed supplies.

Also, if reports of the exploitation of innocent citizens by criminal elements are accurate, I would also implore you to dispatch National Guard units and other law enforcement personnel necessary to protect innocent and suffering victims.

Thank you for your consideration of this request in light of the extenuating circumstances surrounding it. I look forward to working with you on this effort to help Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,



Bill Posey  
Member of Congress