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House of Representatives  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
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September 29, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thanks to your immediate federal response and subsequent aids of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security, Puerto Rico has been able to get on the path to recovery from the disastrous impact of Hurricane Fiona. However, much more needs to be done.

We write to you as legislators, as Hispanics and leaders of the Pennsylvania Latino Caucus, calling for bold action to help residents of Puerto Rico restore the power on the island. This can be achieved by waiving the Jones Act and allowing shipments of necessary fuel to the island.

The Jones Act is one of the core factors limiting current relief efforts, but also the overall economic development of the island.

A clock is ticking for all the people impacted by this natural disaster. We urge you to ease the burden for Puerto Ricans, regardless of political or statehood status, and manage this situation with the same urgency that would involve any of the 50 states in the country. This is a matter of survival and empathy.

As of today, according to LUMA Energy which operates Puerto Rico's power transmission and distribution, an estimate of 320,232 residents and businesses remain without power, relying only on generators.

The island was hit by Fiona on September 18; Puerto Ricans have been waiting for more than a week now for immediate action. Puerto Ricans are stranded; they cannot wait any longer. We all count on your intervention.

Sincerely

Handwritten signature of Danilo Burgos in black ink.

Danilo Burgos  
State Representative  
197<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Manuel Guzman in black ink.

Manuel Guzman  
State Representative  
127<sup>th</sup> Legislative District