

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 6, 2025

The Honorable Russell Vought  
Director  
Office of Management & Budget  
725 17th St NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Vought:

We write to express our deep concern over the recent workforce reductions at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Weather Service (NWS) as part of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) initiative. These cuts, particularly those affecting meteorologists and weather forecasters, pose an immediate and severe threat to hurricane preparedness and response in Florida and across the nation.

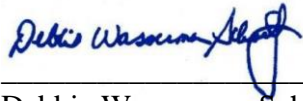
Florida is no stranger to the devastating impacts of hurricanes, and our communities depend on NOAA's accurate and timely forecasting to make life-saving decisions. Last year, NOAA achieved record accuracy in hurricane tracking, which enabled emergency responders and residents to take appropriate precautions, saving lives and mitigating economic losses. The reduction of approximately 10% of NOAA's workforce, including critical forecasters, raises serious concerns about the agency's ability to provide reliable forecasts, particularly as we head into another hurricane season.

These cuts are not just numbers on a balance sheet—they directly impact public safety, emergency preparedness, and our ability to protect the people of Florida. Reducing NOAA's capacity to track and forecast severe weather events will leave our state more vulnerable to extreme weather, potentially increasing the cost of disaster response and recovery while putting lives at greater risk.

We urge you to reconsider these reductions and ensure that NOAA and the National Weather Service maintain the staffing and resources necessary to fulfill their vital mission. Investments in weather forecasting and emergency preparedness are essential to our national security and economic stability, and we strongly oppose any actions that weaken our ability to protect lives and property from natural disasters.

We appreciate your attention to this critical issue and look forward to your response on how the Administration plans to maintain the integrity of hurricane forecasting and public safety efforts.

Sincerely,



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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



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Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



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Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



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Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



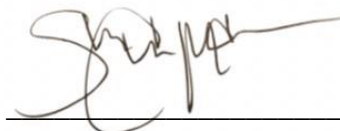
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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress