

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

September 10, 2012

The Honorable Shaun Donovan
Secretary
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Donovan:

Let me take this opportunity to thank the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for your numerous investments in Louisiana's communities over the past couple of years. HUD funding and programs truly have been there for Louisiana in the good times and the bad. I write to request your assistance as we face similar challenges from Hurricane Isaac.

In particular, I am writing on behalf of Louisianians whose homes were damaged in Hurricane Isaac that recently struck the Gulf Coast. Though many parts of Louisiana emerged unscathed from the hurricane, there are neighborhoods and communities that have been severely damaged by flooding and wind damage. Because of this damage, President Obama has issued a disaster declaration for multiple parishes in Louisiana.

During the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, there were several unscrupulous mortgage lenders who unnecessarily withheld hazard and flood insurance proceeds from homeowners. These homeowners were entitled to the proceeds from these programs. More importantly, these homeowners were desperately in need of funds to assist them in rebuilding their homes and lives that were impacted by Katrina.

Fortunately, the damage incurred recently in many areas is not as severe as it was in 2005. However, there will still be homeowners in numerous hard hit communities who will be entitled to hazard or flood insurance proceeds. In order to avoid a repeat of 2005, I respectfully request that you utilize your exiting authority to ensure that homeowners receive the insurance proceeds that they are entitled to.

Thank you for your continued work on behalf of families and communities throughout Louisiana and the rest of the country.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator