

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0902

October 6, 2021

The Honorable Shalanda Young
Acting Director
Office of Management and Budget
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Acting Director Young,

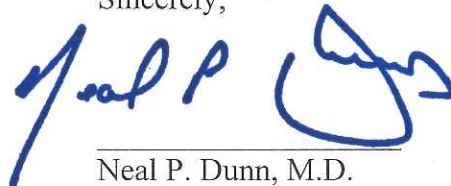
I write today regarding the urgent need to release the fishery relief funds provided by the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act (P.L. 116-20). This relief funding is necessary to support the full recovery of the fishing industry for the losses resulting from Hurricane Michael in 2018. It is essential these resources are accessible immediately.

Hurricane Michael, which made landfall on October 10, 2018, caused catastrophic and widespread damage across the Florida Panhandle. President Trump signed P.L. 116-20 into law on June 6, 2019, to mitigate the destruction from this devastating storm. Specifically, P.L. 116-20 included \$150,000,000 for events related to fisheries disasters. However, these funds have not been released by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

While I am pleased with and inspired by the progress the Second District of Florida has made since Hurricane Michael, the fishing industry is still waiting on relief. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded the financial pressure on the fishing industry. Although I appreciate OMB's work to allocate the COVID-19 relief funding that was established by Congress, it is imperative the disaster relief for individuals affected by Hurricane Michael is made available expeditiously.

I urge OMB to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to distribute immediately the fishery relief funds provided by P.L. 116-20. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress