

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, October 02, 2008

Republican Members Request Polling Iowa House

(DES MOINES)-Today nine House Republicans submitted a letter to the leadership in the House: Speaker of the House Pat Murphy, House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, House Republican Leader Christopher Rants and the Chief Clerk of the House.

Republicans who represent areas that sustained severe damage during the historic flooding and tornado disasters are requesting that the leadership in the House poll the 100 members to see if they are supportive of convening a special Legislative session to deal with disaster relief.

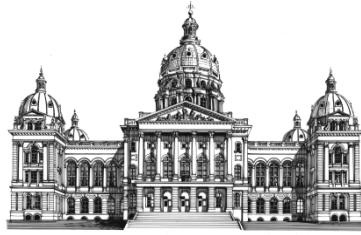
Reps. Kraig Paulsen (Hiawatha), Jeff Kaufmann (Wilton), Sandy Greiner (Keota), Dawn Pettengill (Mt. Auburn), Tom Sands (Columbus Junction), Pat Grassley (New Hartford), Tami Wiencek (Waterloo), Dan Rasmussen (Independence) and Bill Schickel (Mason City) each submitted a letter individually to the leadership.

A copy of the letter is attached.

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State of Iowa
Eighty-second General Assembly
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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES
Commerce
State Government
Ways and Means

October 2, 2008

Patrick Murphy, Speaker
Iowa House of Representatives
Statehouse
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Speaker Murphy,

Due to the historic flooding and tornado disasters in May and June of 2008, several counties have sustained severe damage. In terms of cost, Governor Culver has stated it will rank in the top 12 of all natural disasters in the history of the United States.

While I support the Governor's effort to help the impacted areas, much more needs to be done to help Iowans. With winter getting nearer by the day, urgency is key. It is imperative that the Legislature meet now to deal with this crisis.

Therefore, I submit this letter to request that you poll all 100 House members to see if they are supportive of convening a special session to approve legislation regarding disaster relief in accordance with the Iowa Constitution, Article 3, Section 2. The House Republican Caucus has toured the damaged area and is ready and willing to work with the majority party on ideas that would help Iowans in the flood and tornado impacted areas.

Lastly, I herewith respectfully request the 82nd General Assembly reconvene immediately in special session to deal with the 2008 natural disasters and you may consider me polled on this question.

Very respectfully,

Dawn Pettengill
State Representative

cc: Minority Leader Christopher Rants
Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy
Mark Brandsgard, Chief Clerk