

Mr. Speaker, as Hurricane Irene roared through the East, central New Jersey braced for the winds. Our towns and homes were battered by the winds and experienced even more damage from the water. Our thoughts and our efforts are with those people injured and harmed, and our heartfelt sympathy goes to those who lost loved ones, including the family of Michael Kenwood, a rescue worker who died on duty.

Today, water is now coming back to exact further vengeance with even greater floods in some areas in New Jersey. Many are helping, including FEMA--yes, a government agency. Whether it is a natural disaster, a terrorist attack or economic hardships, Americans pull together as a Nation. It is unwise for anyone to suggest that people are on their own to deal with a natural disaster or to find work.