JERRY F. COSTELLO
12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS
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PLEASE RESPOND TO THE OFFICE CHECKED BELOW:

# Congress of the United States
## House of Representatives
## Washington, DC 20515–1312

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July 26, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20500-0003

Dear President Bush:

As you know, the State of Illinois continues to suffer from extreme drought conditions. Temperatures have routinely reached 100 degrees or higher with little precipitation. The period of March through June was the third driest in the state since 1895. Given this situation, Governor Rod Blagojevich has requested a federal disaster declaration for all 102 counties in Illinois.

I strongly urge you to expedite the Governor's request for this assistance. Crops have already been negatively affected, and some farmers are facing a total loss. Federal assistance will greatly aid the recovery efforts and allow families access to necessary resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information or be of assistance in any other way.

Sincerely,

Jerry F. Costello
Member of Congress

JFC/dg

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