



OFFICE OF MAYOR

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February 22, 2014

City Hall
2309 15th St.
Gulfport, MS 39501

Honorable Steven M. Palazzo
Member of Congress
1325 25th Avenue
Gulfport, MS 39501

RE: City of Gulfport support for [H.R. 3370](#), the Homeowner Flood Insurance
Affordability Act of 2014

Dear Congressman Palazzo:

As the Mayor of the City of Gulfport, I am writing today to offer my support of H.R. 3370, the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014. On July 14, 2013, the City Council passed a resolution asking Mississippi's Congressional delegation to work to delay or mitigate dramatic flood insurance rate hikes mandated by Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. H.R. 3370 protects the economic vitality of the City and South Mississippi and prevents our citizens from unaffordable rate increases.

Passage of H.R. 3370 is critical to the City of Gulfport and other shoreline communities across the country. Coastal communities are the economic engines of the country, and certainly in the State of Mississippi, contributing an estimated \$6.6 trillion to the nation's gross domestic product.

I applaud your exhaustive efforts and leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the work of Senator Cochran and Senator Wicker in the U.S. Senate to pass relief measures. If the City of Gulfport can be of further assistance to your efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Billy Hewes", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Billy Hewes
Mayor, City of Gulfport, MS