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For Release: Immediate
Communications Office

Media Contact: Governor's

Date: Jan. 29, 2009

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Gov. Gregoire requests disaster aid for businesses affected by December snowfall

Winter storms cause economic losses to state's small businesses

OLYMPIA – Gov. Chris Gregoire this week requested that the U.S. Small Business Administration declare an economic injury disaster for businesses in all of Washington's 39 counties because of the December snowstorms.

“The declaration can be a major boost in helping business owners recover from the effects of the snowstorms in an already difficult economic environment,” Gregoire said. “I urge the SBA to take prompt action on this request so small business owners can apply for low-interest loans to obtain working capital for their businesses.”

Gregoire's request certifies that small businesses in the state have suffered substantial economic injury as a result of the storm and are in need of financial assistance not otherwise available on reasonable terms.

In all, the Governor's request includes descriptions of economic injuries to businesses in 18 counties. The additional 21 counties can be added to the request because they are contiguous to the primary reporting counties.

For a copy of the request visit: http://www.governor.wa.gov/news/20090128_sba.pdf

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