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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Brooks Says Allegheny, Westmoreland County Residents,
Businesses Eligible for Flood Damage Loans**

MURRYSVILLE – Following the flooding that caused widespread damage in the area, Rep. Bob Brooks (R-Allegheny/Westmoreland) announced today that homeowners, renters and businesses impacted by recent storms in Allegheny and Westmoreland counties may be eligible for low-interest disaster loans through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Program.

“I am pleased to see our residents and businessowners affected by these storms will be getting assistance,” said Brooks. “Getting our citizens back on their feet after these floods is one of my top priorities, and these loans will give relief to those who were most affected. We are thankful the federal government is stepping up to help.”

Low-interest loans of up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. SBA regulations permit loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace personal property. Businesses and nonprofits can borrow up to \$2 million to restore damaged or destroyed buildings, inventory, equipment and assets. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial qualifications.

To assist anyone wishing to apply, the SBA will establish a Disaster Loan Outreach Center (DLOC) at the Renton Volunteer Department, Plum Borough, 1996 Old Mine Road, in Pittsburgh. Also, you may call or visit the SBA Pittsburgh District Office, 411 Seventh Ave, Suite 1450, in Pittsburgh.

SBA customer service representatives will be on hand at the disaster loan outreach center to issue loan applications, answer questions about the disaster loan program, explain the application process and help individuals to complete their applications.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit the center in person may obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), or by e-mailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

Loan applications can also be downloaded at www.sba.gov/disaster. Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>. Completed applications should be returned to the local DLOC or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is Oct. 7. The deadline to return economic injury disaster loan applications is May 7, 2020.

“I urge those needing help with repairs to reach out and seek these resources,” the lawmaker added.