UNIVERSITY OF
NEW HAVEN
23 North Pease Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525

Representative Themis Klarides
House Republican Office
LOB Room 4200
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Representative Klarides,

As a citizen of Woodbridge, Connecticut, I was very pleased with the emergency response provided by our town officials, utilities and community services following Hurricane Irene. I realize our state and the entire country is studying the after effects of the storm to determine how improvements can be made.

The main concern I had that day was the lack of access to emergency information. Like everyone else, our power was out so I was listening to my transistor radio throughout the day. The only consistent news I received was CBS radio in New York City... which reported little information about Connecticut. The local Connecticut stations did their best to bring citizens up to date but the information was sporadic and largely "called in" by local citizens. Governor Malloy's announcements were aired and this was very helpful.. but news should have been transmitted throughout the day by reporters.. (perhaps the audio from local TV stations). Could a **designated radio frequency for centralizing emergency information be created?** Perhaps it already exits... if so, no one knows about it!! All citizens have access to a portable, transistor radio powered with batteries. This is a very low tech and inexpensive tool that functions without power, the internet, TV or cable. Just plain old- fashioned radio could provide reports of storm damage, clean up progress, power line restoration, alternate travel routes, evacuation orders, where trees and wires are down, etc. (of course the radio station would have to have a generator!)

This radio frequency could be coordinated across our state and other states so that citizens have an easy way to receive information that doesn't require power.

Thank you for considering this option as part of future planning for storm damage and relief efforts.

With best wishes,

Many citizens do not have Smart Phones
esp. the elderly

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