Contact: Matt Lloyd

**PENCE: “HELP IS ON THE WAY”**

*Congressman Praises President’s Decision to Declare Disaster Relief for Flood-ravaged Counties*

**Washington, Jul 11, 2003** - WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Mike Pence released the following statement this morning regarding President Bush’s decision to declare counties in eastern Indiana eligible for federal disaster assistance in the wake of record flooding:

“With the break in the weather and decision by President George W. Bush to declare counties in eastern Indiana eligible for disaster funding, Hoosiers can breathe a sigh of relief that help is on the way.

“With the president’s decision, the local governments and families directly affected by the flood of ’03 are now eligible for immediate and significant financial assistance from the federal government.

“I look forward to meeting with families and local officials in Bluffton, Decatur, Alexandria and Elwood today as we assist them in unpacking this treasure-trove of federal assistance.”

Congressman Pence will meet with residents affected by floods in Bluffton, Decatur, Alexandria and Elwood and tour affected areas on the ground and by helicopter this afternoon.

For information on Congressman Pence’s itinerary this afternoon, please contact Matt Lloyd at 202-225-3021.

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