With Vermonters preparing their tax returns, Rep. Peter Welch today traveled to Waterbury to outline federal tax relief available to Vermont individuals and businesses affected by Tropical Storm Irene.

“Irene caused catastrophic damage to many Vermont homes and businesses,” Welch said. “As Vermonters continue working to get back on their feet, they should know there is federal tax relief available to them that may help lessen the burden.”

At the home of Carrie Beck – which sustained damage during Tropical Storm Irene – Welch outlined a number of federal tax relief provisions for which Vermonters affected by Irene may qualify. These include:

- Individuals and businesses that sustained damage may be eligible to deduct storm-related losses from their income tax returns
- Taxpayers who reside or have a business in a disaster area may be eligible for extended deadlines from the IRS
- Taxpayers who lost tax documents due to Irene may be eligible to receive replacement documents free of charge

Welch has created a web resource page (www.welch.house.gov/irene) which explains these provisions and provides links to other helpful resources.

Welch has also recorded a public service announcement to raise awareness about these tax relief provisions.