

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 28, 2002

Dear Colleague:

Our nation's response to the events of September 11, 2001 has been nothing short of astounding. It has been years since the strength of the American character has been so tested and our nation passed with such high scores.

One response from government has been a resolve to dedicate American ingenuity to homeland security. Both public and private sector leaders have come together to find ways to ensure that we employ America's best ideas to protect our citizens. In the same way that small business is the engine of our nation's economy, entrepreneurship and innovation by small firms are essential to the successful implementation of our current and future national security goals.

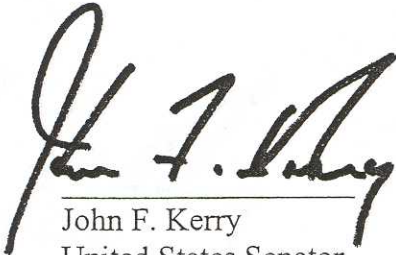
On July 10, 2002, we will co-chair an exposition to showcase small businesses and their homeland security products. We invite you to attend this important event.

In addition, we are seeking your input on small businesses from your (state/district) which have innovative products that can contribute to homeland-security efforts. The Federal government must be better informed about the many promising homeland-security products developed by small businesses, and this showcase will provide an opportunity for small businesses to educate the government about their important role in homeland security.


To provide a good view of entrepreneurial efforts, we will select a representative sample of small business innovators in homeland security products to make these presentations. Companies not selected to participate in the event will be invited to submit information for publication in a program of small businesses with homeland security products.

Please contact JD Dobson at (202) 224-5721 by April 12 with the contact information of small businesses that you would like us to consider for participation in this important exposition.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
United States Senator



Christopher S. Bond
United States Senator