

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2008

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Henry Paulson
Department of Treasury
15th & Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Ben Bernanke
Board of Governors of the
Federal Reserve System
Constitution Ave. & 20th St., NW
Washington, DC 20551

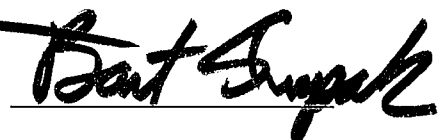
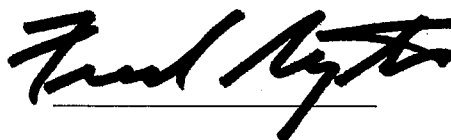
Dear President Bush, Secretary Paulson, and Chairman Bernanke,

We commend your efforts to work with the Congress to enact legislation that would provide assistance to the domestic automakers. We share your disappointment that the Senate fell eight votes short of obtaining the sixty votes necessary to consider legislation negotiated with the White House and approved in the House of Representatives by a bipartisan majority that would have provided federal loans to the domestic automakers.

As you know, the global financial crisis is crippling the availability of credit for the automakers, their suppliers, their dealers and consumers. One or more of the domestic automakers now face the real possibility of failure before the end of the year unless financial assistance is immediately forthcoming. This result will plunge our nation further into recession, add hundreds of thousands to the employment rolls in a matter of weeks, and deliver a crippling blow to the manufacturing sector from which it may never recover. Other nations are acting to assist their automotive industries and the U.S. must do the same.

The Department of Treasury and the Federal Reserve have existing authorities they can use to give this vital industry access to the capital it needs to survive this recession, a position that was supported by Gene L. Dodaro, the Acting Comptroller General of the United States, in his testimony before the Senate Banking and House Financial Services Committees last week. We appreciate your willingness to consider existing options available to you, including use of the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). Given the urgent nature of this crisis, we urge you to immediately use these existing authorities to extend loans to the domestic automakers and ensure their continued operations until the 111th Congress can convene on January 6, 2009 and pass legislation relating to the long term restructuring and viability of the domestic automobile industry.

Sincerely,



Pete Huebner

Paul Kildoe

Jack Par

King Ehlman

Carl Lawer

Rebbie Stabenow

Miss Roeger

Joe Swallow

Constance S. Miller

Jane Camp

Thaddeus McCotter

Carlynn C. Bergstrom
