



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

June 7, 2005

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
United States Senate
Committee on Appropriations
S128 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
Ranking Member
United States Senate
Committee on Appropriations
S112 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Chairman
United States Senate
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
184 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Ranking Member
United States Senate
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
123 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

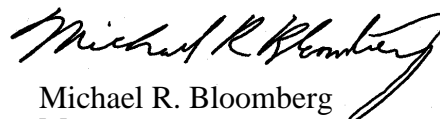
Dear Senators Byrd, Cochran, Harkin, and Specter:

The President's FY 2006 budget includes a \$120 million rescission of workers compensation funds made available to New York State in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. These funds were appropriated for "workers compensation programs" to be used for Ground Zero responders. The President's budget also seeks to rescind an additional \$5 million of unspent funds from the worker retraining program established to help New Yorkers who became unemployed because of 9/11.

I strongly urge that you reject any rescission of these funds and ask that this \$125 million be used to help New York in our continuing efforts to recover from September 11th and its aftermath.

Without the assistance of the Appropriations Committee, New York City would not have been able to recover to the point we are at now. However, the cuts proposed in the President's budget would be a step backward and would limit our ability to address the many needs that still remain.

Sincerely,


Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

MRB:jc