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March 31, 2009

Mr. President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The purpose of this letter is to provide notice that I am accepting those funds available to Alaska under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) that create new, private-sector jobs and grow the economy.

I have invited public discussion through the legislative hearing process currently underway on ARRA funds that appear designed to grow government programs or that will impose federal mandates on our state. Federal stimulus funding must not add to strained state budgets nor diminish state sovereignty by imposing mandates, now or in the future.

The law requires that I certify that every dollar of these economic stimulus funds will create jobs and grow the economy. I take that charge seriously. I have forwarded requests to Alaska's legislators to appropriate hundreds of millions of dollars for infrastructure projects that truly create new private sector jobs and stimulate the economy. Through our budget process, I have also accepted additional Medicaid funds available through ARRA.

We will continue to review the assurances and requirements in the ARRA under each title for receipt of federal economic stimulus funds. The state legislature is fully engaged in the budget process and taking public testimony on the economic stimulus funding to determine the impacts on Alaska's budget now and in the future when the federal funds are no longer available. It is possible that there will be areas where the state will choose not to apply for funds. These instances will be addressed on a case by case basis.

Pursuant to Title XVI, section 1607 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Pub. L. 111-5 (Feb. 17, 2009)) ("ARRA"), entitled "Additional funding Distribution and Assistance of Appropriate Use of Funds", I Sarah Palin, the Governor of the State of Alaska, hereby certify that:

- 1) The State of Alaska will request and use certain funds provided by ARRA with some decisions subject to final determinations based on the legislative appropriations process described in this letter; and
- 2) Funds will be used to create jobs and promote economic growth.

By making this certification, the State of Alaska is not committed now or in the future, to accept all of the federal funds.

The federal economic stimulus package will have profound, long-term implications. Our citizens and future generations must have the hope of meaningful work and economic opportunity, rather than be burdened by higher taxes and increased national debt.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sarah Palin", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Sarah Palin
Governor

cc: The Honorable Peter R. Orszag, Director, United States Office of
Management & Budget
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, United States Senate
The Honorable Mark Begich, United States Senate
The Honorable Don Young, United States Congress
The Honorable Gary Stevens, President of the Senate, Alaska State Legislature
The Honorable Mike Chenault, Speaker of the House, Alaska State Legislature

Enclosure: Joint letter to Members of the Alaska Congressional Delegation