

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

September 17, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton:

We are writing to express our concern with the current status of inter-country adoptions in Nepal. It is our understanding that American families are currently in Nepal awaiting final approval to bring their adopted children home. These families were granted travel authorization by the government of Nepal but have been subsequently delayed by the United States' suspension of new adoptions from Nepal.

We appreciate the efforts to date made by the U.S. Embassy to effectively move pipeline cases forward and strongly urge continued focus on processing the Nepali approved cases- particularly where the American families are already in Nepal waiting to bring their children home. These families are enduring extreme emotional and financial burdens while their children's cases are investigated further. While we support a rigorous and transparent screening process, we ask that additional effort be made to eliminate any potential administrative delays so these families wait only as long as absolutely necessary. While these cases are processed, the children may continue to live in institutions without the care and love they need to thrive.

Again, we support the State Department's efforts to strengthen and improve upon reforms enacted in May 2008. We believe it is not only necessary but possible for the Government of Nepal to establish a system for inter-country adoption that respects the rights of birth parents, adoptive parents and most importantly, the children. However we hope that the utmost consideration be given to American families already in Nepal that are simply waiting for final approval. We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working together to unite these families with their children.

Sincerely,



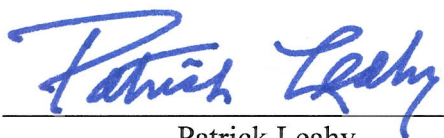
John F. Kerry

United States Senator

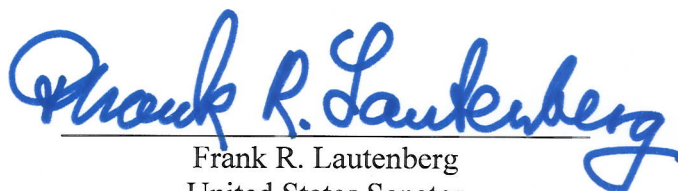


Jim W. DeMint

United States Senator



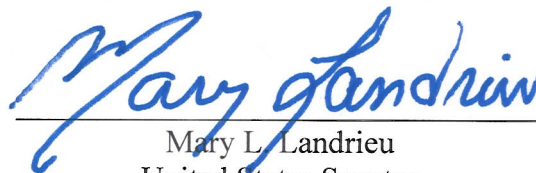
Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



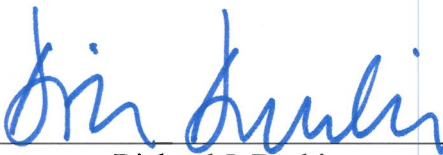
Frank R. Lautenberg
United States Senator



Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator



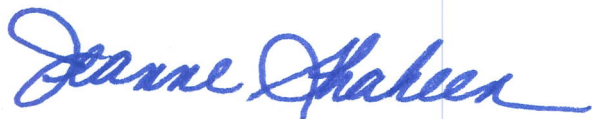
Mary L. Landrieu
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



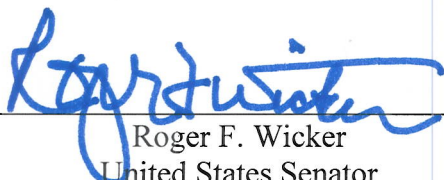
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Amy J. Klobuchar
United States Senator



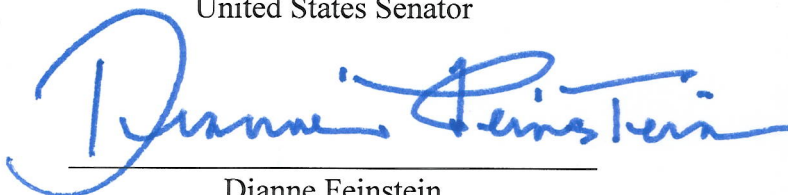
Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator



Thad Cochran
United States Senator



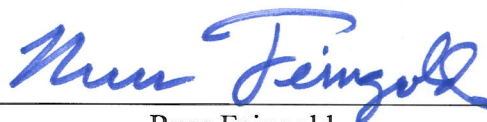
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



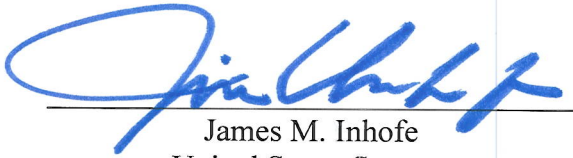
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Scott P. Brown
United States Senator



Russ Feingold
United States Senator



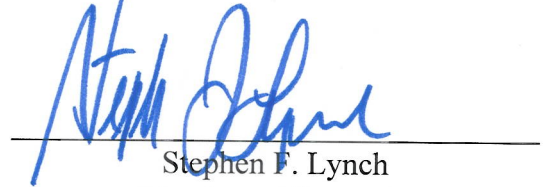
James M. Inhofe
United States Senator



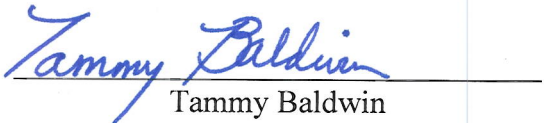
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



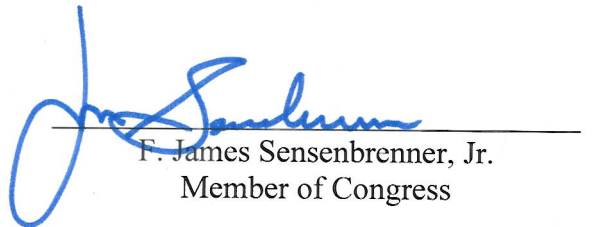
Todd Akin
Member of Congress



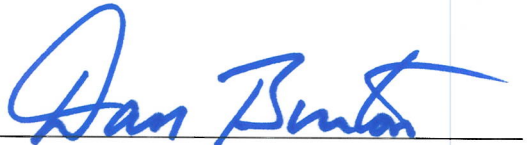
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress




F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dan Burton
Member of Congress



John W. Olver
Member of Congress



Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress