

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

April 23, 2010

President Dmitry Medvedev
Russian Federation
Moscow, Russia

Dear President Medvedev,

We are a group of United States Senators and Representatives who focus on issues related to vulnerable children and intercountry adoption. We are deeply concerned by the recent incident involving Artyem Saviliev and his adoptive mother, and the concern it must have caused you and the Russian people. However, on behalf of thousands of Americans families who have lovingly adopted Russian children or hope to adopt children in the future, we respectfully request your leadership in ensuring that intercountry adoptions between our two countries – particularly those already in process – will continue.

The welfare and safety of children must be the goal and responsibility of all nations. We can assure you that many in the U.S. Congress are concerned by this case. It belies the reality that tens of thousands of children are adopted successfully by American families every year, allowing them to thrive in loving homes.

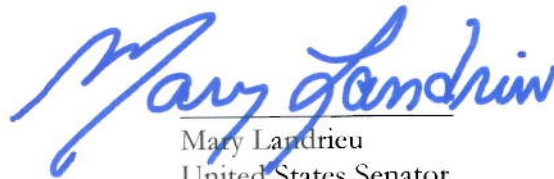
We will continue to work with our colleagues in Congress on legislation and policy initiatives that help improve the adoption process and support adoptive families so that all children are ensured of protection. We will work with Secretary Clinton on such international or bilateral steps as needed to protect children's rights and best interests. We believe children are best served when they may live in a permanent and safe family setting.

You have demonstrated your leadership in protecting children and ensuring that they live, grow, and flourish in permanent and safe families by maintaining intercountry adoption. We hope that adoptions between our two countries continue and stand ready to support such improvements as are needed to serve the best interests of the children and their new families.

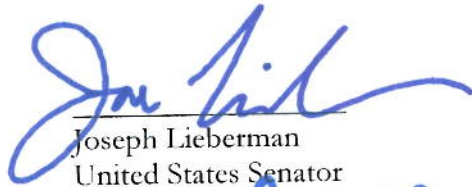
Sincerely,




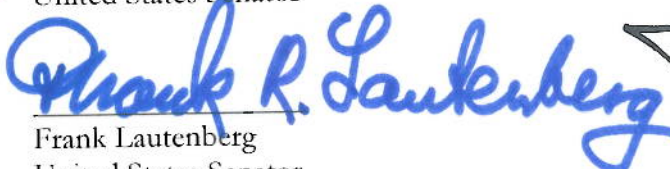
Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator




Mary Landrieu
United States Senator



Joseph Lieberman
United States Senator

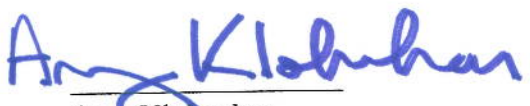

Sam Brownback
United States Senator

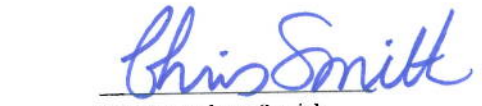

Frank Lautenberg
United States Senator


Richard Burr
United States Senator

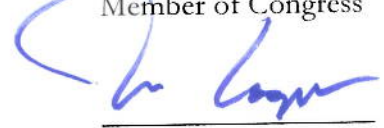

Benjamin Cardin
United States Senator

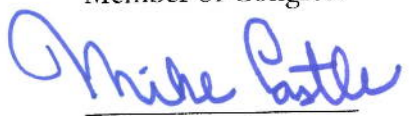

Robert Casey, Jr.
United States Senator


Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

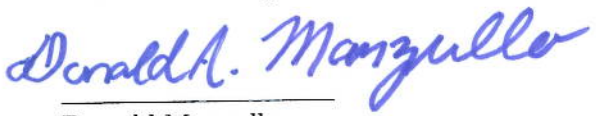

Christopher Smith
Member of Congress



Bart Gordon
Member of Congress

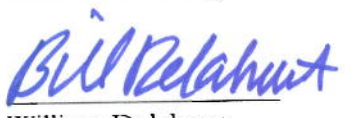

Jim Cooper
Member of Congress

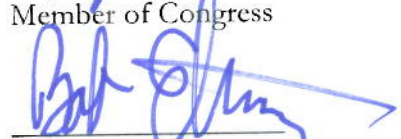

Michael Castle
Member of Congress



Peter Hoekstra
Member of Congress



Donald Manzullo
Member of Congress

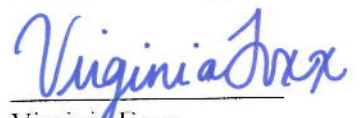

Roy Blunt
Member of Congress


William Delahunt
Member of Congress


Bob Etheridge
Member of Congress


Jerry Moran
Member of Congress


Bob Inglis
Member of Congress


Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress


Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Laura Richardson
Member of Congress

cc: Honorable Hillary Clinton
Secretary, United States Department of State