

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 20, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street N.W.  
Washington D.C., 20520

The Honorable Dr. Rajiv Shah  
Administrator Designate  
U.S. Agency for International  
Development  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington DC 20523

The Honorable Janet Napolitano  
Secretary Janet Napolitano  
Department of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
245 Murray Lane, SW  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Madam Secretaries and Master Administrator Designate:

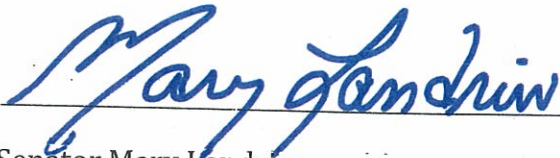
As you are well aware, on the evening of January 18, 2010, the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Citizenship and Immigration Services announced that it would use its authority to extend humanitarian parole to those Haitian orphans with established adoptive relationships with U.S. adoptive families so that these orphans could travel immediately to the United States. We commend the Department of Homeland Security for making this policy decision and fully support your desire to protect the best interest of these most vulnerable children. What was and remains lacking two days after this announcement is the coordinated logistical plan needed to assure these orphans' immediate safety as well as efficient immigration processing and evacuation to the U.S.

We appreciate that a limited number of cases with access to private planes have been processed and evacuated from the country, but clearly not all adoptive families are in a position to put forward these resources to ensure the safe and swift travel of these orphans to the U.S. Furthermore, DOS and DHS are urging families to stay where they are. We are concerned that without clear direction American citizens will put themselves or the children they are seeking to adopt at risk by attempting an evacuation of their own.

Over the past four days, we, along with several other congressional offices have been urging State Department, USAID and Homeland Security officials to consider the consequences of making this announcement without a plan that ensured safe and efficient processing and travel for these children. Despite our best efforts, over 350 American

families are now desperate and many are trying to independently evacuate their children. At the same time, orphanage directors, who are lacking basic supplies such as formula and water, as well as the information and support they need to protect the children in their care, are leaving the orphanages in search of help.

In our view, the chaos that has ensued is a direct result of a lack of logistical inter-agency coordination, a lack of communication to the public, and ad-hoc processing of travel documents by the U.S. Embassy. Therefore, we are writing to ask for your personal assurances that the State Department, in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Agency on International Development and the Department of Defense, puts in place a plan to directly ensure that ALL of the 600-700 orphans affected by Monday's announcement of humanitarian parole are safely and efficiently evacuated within the next ten days.



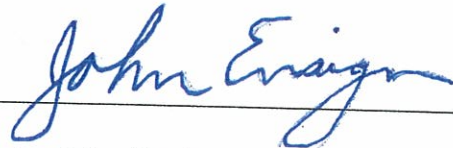
Senator Mary Landrieu



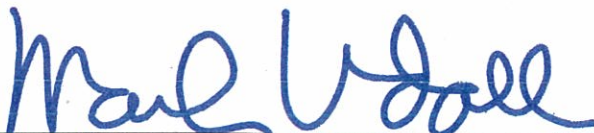
Senator James Inhofe



Senator Robert Casey



Senator John Ensign



Senator Mark Udall



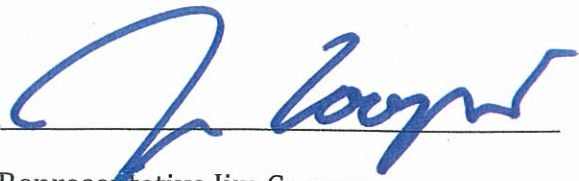
Senator John McCain




Senator Kit Bond



Representative Michele Bachmann

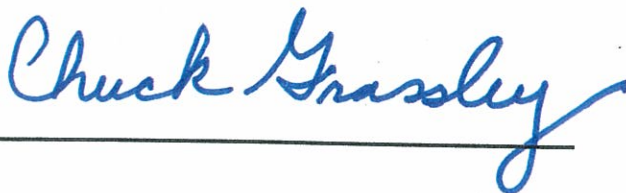


Representative Jim Cooper

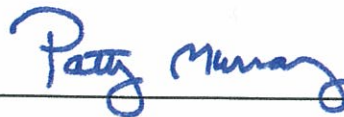


Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers

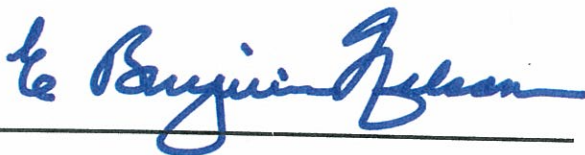
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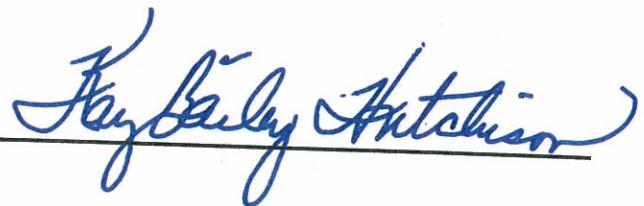
Senator Chuck Grassley



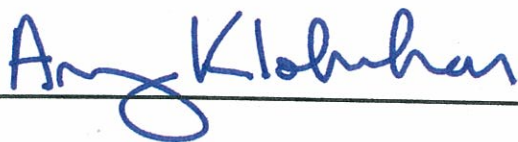
Senator Patty Murray



Senator Ben Nelson



Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison



Senator Amy Klobuchar



Senator Susan Collins



Senator Frank Lautenberg



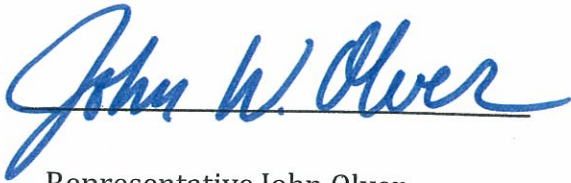
Senator Michael Bennet



Representative Glenn Thompson



Representative Bill Foster



Representative John Olver



Representative Laura Richardson



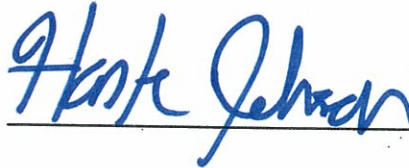
Representative Charles Dent



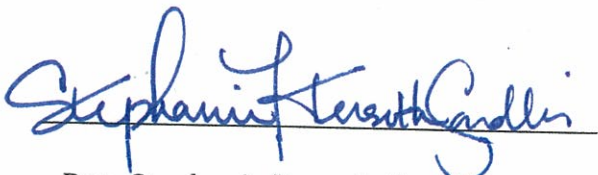
Representative Martin Heinrich



Representative Bart Gordon



Representative Henry Johnson, Jr.



Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin



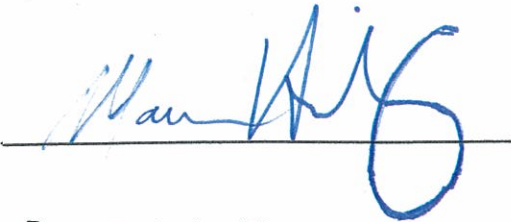
Representative Chris Smith



Representative Dave Camp



Representative Jim Jordan



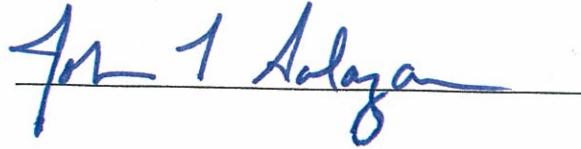
Representative Maurice Hinchey



Representative Donald Manzullo



Representative Jerry Moran




Representative John Salazar



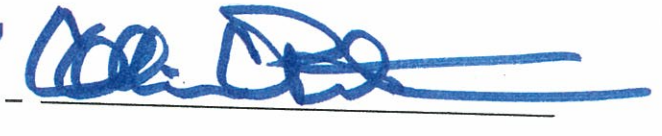
Representative Rodney Alexander



Representative Bruce Braley



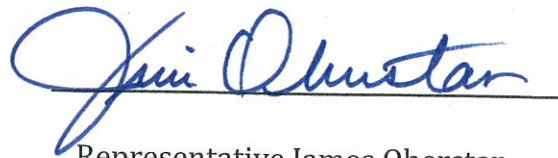
Representative Leonard Boswell



Representative Collin Peterson



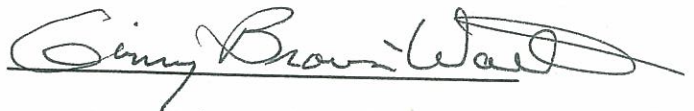
Representative Deborah Halvorson



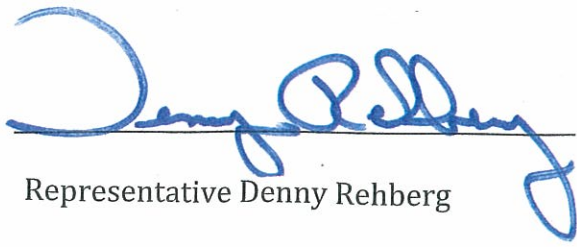
Representative James Oberstar



Representative Todd Tiahrt

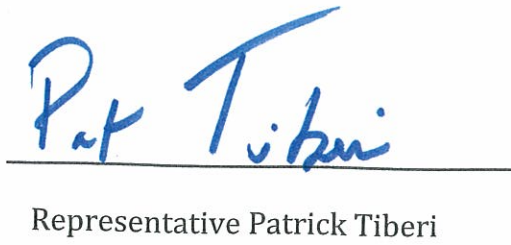


Representative Ginny Brown-Waite



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Representative Denny Rehberg



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Representative Patrick Tiberi



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Representative Adrian Smith



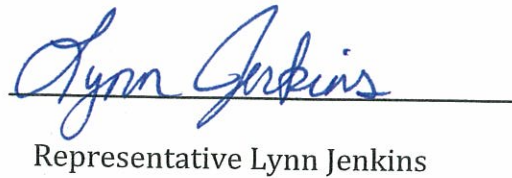
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Representative Doug Lamborn



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Representative Ike Skelton



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Representative Lynn Jenkins



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Representative Peter Roskam



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Representative Betsy Markey