

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 4, 2006

His Excellency Roh Moo-hyun  
President, Republic of Korea  
Cheong Wa Dae  
1 Jongno-gu  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

Dear President Roh:

We respectfully request your personal attention in resolving the prolonged embargo the Republic of Korea maintains on American beef prior to further advancements of free trade talks. Despite overwhelming scientific evidence supporting the safety of American beef, more than 16 years of controls, and an agreement to restore trade; the embargo persists.

It has been more than seven months since our countries' health officials agreed on initial conditions to resume trade. The restoration of beef trade prior to the conclusion of talks scheduled for the end of this year is essential to making meaningful progress and addressing Congressional reservations about a possible free trade agreement (FTA). The urgency of resuming trade is heightened now that other Asian nations are open to U.S. beef exports.

As you know, many American cattle and beef groups have informed Ambassador Lee and the U.S. Congress that they oppose a free trade agreement with Korea unless and until beef exports are resumed. This ongoing irritant in our trade relationship will hinder the ability of our trade negotiators to conclude any agreement with your country that would survive Congressional scrutiny.

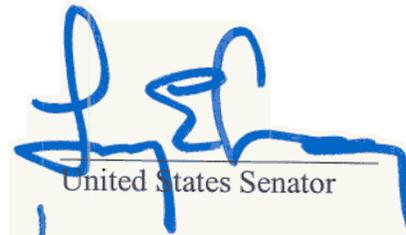
Therefore, we urge you to restore full beef trade with the U.S. prior to the advancement of FTA talks. We appreciate your response to this inquiry and look forward to working with you on this very important issue.

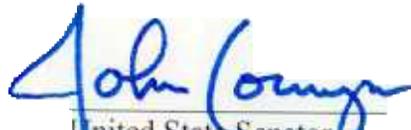
Sincerely,

  
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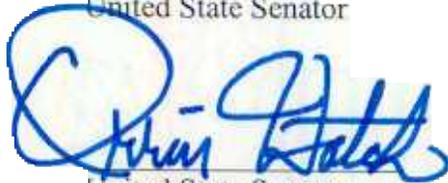
  
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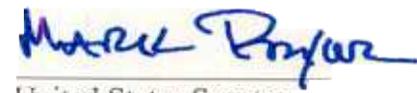
  
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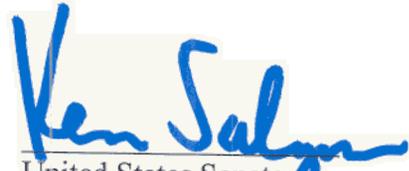
  
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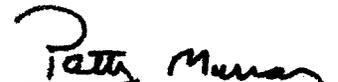
  
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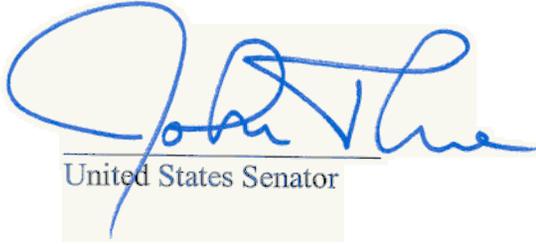
  
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