



*America's Voice for Security, Prosperity, and Humanitarian Values*

February 26, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the U.S. Global Leadership Campaign, we applaud your bold and visionary leadership to invest in the “smart power” non-military tools of global development and diplomacy. Your Administration’s request of \$51.7 billion for the FY10 International Affairs Budget strongly reinforces the continued bipartisan commitment of Congress and your Administration to invest in the strategic tools essential to ensuring our national security, building global economic prosperity and demonstrating our moral values across the globe.

In December 2008, 217 Members of Congress – including a majority of 51 Senators and 166 Representatives – signed bipartisan letters to you urging a robust FY10 International Affairs Budget. Earlier this month, 47 distinguished retired senior military officers wrote to you citing the critical importance of a strengthened civilian capacity to our national security. The U.S. Global Leadership Campaign, a broad-based, nationwide coalition of businesses, non-governmental organizations and activist in all 50 states, will work to build upon this bipartisan support and urge Congress to fund your Administration’s FY10 International Affairs Budget request.

We look forward to learning more about the details of your FY10 International Affairs Budget request in the months ahead and to continue to work with your Administration to ensure that America is fully equipped to address the global challenges and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including a strong and effective International Affairs Budget.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Lane".

Bill Lane  
Co-President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Lindborg".

Nancy Lindborg  
Co-President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Schraye".

Liz Schraye  
Executive Director