

United States Senate

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April 14, 2008

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
The Capitol, Room S-131
Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
The Capitol, Room S-146A
Washington, D.C. 20510-0001

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member:

I certify that neither I, nor my immediate family, has a pecuniary interest in the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of Paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

I recognize that the Appropriations Committee always faces a tremendous challenge prioritizing the many important funding requests. Therefore, I am grateful for your consideration of my requests.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Will Sehestedt of my staff at 224-6568 if you or your staff has any questions about my requests, or if we may be of any assistance.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



MSB/ws