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BUDGET

FINANCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 24, 2008

The Honorable Robert Byrd
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Byrd, Senator Cochran:

In accordance with the Committee's direction, I write to certify compliance with Senate Rule XLIV and Committee guidelines pertaining to congressionally-directed funding. For my requests for congressionally-directed funding for projects contained in any Fiscal Year 2009 Appropriations bill or accompanying report, I certify that neither I nor my immediate family, to the best of my knowledge, has a pecuniary interest in such projects as defined in Senate Rules.

As you know, I am a strong supporter of continuing to balance the federal budget and believe sound, effective budget discipline needs to be maintained. I understand that the discretionary budget constraints within which the Committee must operate mean that difficult choices will have to be made and that setting priorities is essential. The projects I have requested meet important needs and, I believe, are priorities that fit within fiscally-responsible appropriations bills.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,



Mike Crapo
United States Senator