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President & CEO,
Initiative for Global
Development

September 8, 2008

Majority Leader Harry Reid
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reid:

The Initiative for Global Development (IGD) is a national network of business leaders that champions effective solutions to global poverty. As IGD partners from across the country, we urge you to bring the Global Poverty Act (S.2433) before the full Senate for consideration.

Introduced in the Senate by Senators Barack Obama and Chuck Hagel, the Global Poverty Act passed out of the Foreign Relations Committee on February 13, 2008. It enjoys strong bipartisan support with 31 additional cosponsors. Its House counterpart (H.R.1302), introduced by Reps. Adam Smith and Spencer Bachus, was approved on September 25, 2007 with 84 bipartisan cosponsors.

IGD believes that global poverty is at the root of many of the world's greatest challenges and dramatically reducing it is one of the most powerful steps we can take in creating a better future for us all. IGD advocates for strong U.S. leadership and effective policies as well as private sector solutions to expand economic opportunity and reduce poverty. The centrality of poverty reduction to U.S. foreign policy has been affirmed in the last two National Security Strategies as well as in the policy statements of the President, the Secretary of State and other high-ranking officials.

Global poverty will be reduced only if the United States uses the full complement of its development policies – in such areas as aid, trade and technical assistance – as part of a comprehensive approach that is focused firmly on promoting economic growth and raising productivity. The Global Poverty Act is an important step toward this goal. It would require the President to develop a comprehensive strategy for reducing poverty, incorporating input from heads of government agencies, multilateral organizations and the private sector. This strategy would set out specific goals against which progress could be measured on an annual basis. We believe the articulation of a national strategy and clear development goals will enhance policy coherence and greatly improve the impact of U.S. development assistance. The act would not authorize new programs or require new spending.

As you know, this legislative year and this Congress are coming quickly to a close. We urge you to use every opportunity to ensure passage of the Global Poverty Act this year.

We appreciate your attention to our views and thank you for your leadership in supporting our nation's active involvement in addressing global poverty.

Sincerely,



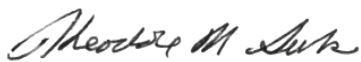
Sally Jewell
President & CEO
Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI)
IGD Board of Directors, CHAIR



William D. Ruckelshaus
Former EPA Administrator and Director
IGD Board of Directors, VICE CHAIR



William H. Gates Sr.
IGD Board of Directors



Theodore M. Solso,
Chairman & CEO
Cummins Inc.
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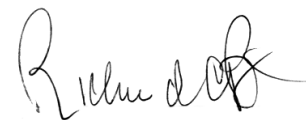
William H. Clapp
Chair
Global Partnerships
IGD Board of Directors



Richard S. Swanson
President & CEO
Federal Home Loan Bank of
Des Moines
IGD Board of Directors



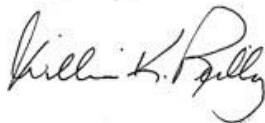
Richard H. Beahrs
Chairman
Expo Communications, Inc
IGD Leadership Council



Richard C. Blum
Chairman
Blum Capital Partners, L.P.
IGD Leadership Council



Carla A. Hills
Chairman & CEO
Hills & Company
Former U.S. Trade Representative
IGD Leadership Council



William K. Reilly
Former EPA Administrator
Founding Partner
Aqua International Partners
IGD Leadership Council



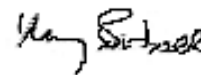
H.L. (Skip) Kotkins, Jr.
Chairman & CEO
Skyway Luggage Company
IGD Leadership Council



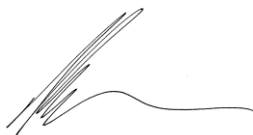
John Castellani
President
Business Roundtable
IGD Leadership Council



Gerald Grinstein
Former CEO
Delta Air Lines, Inc.
IGD Leadership Council



Nancy Birdsall
President
Center for Global
Development
IGD Leadership Council



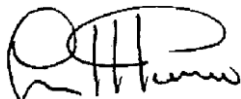
Michael Gerson
Former Assistant to the President
for Policy & Strategic Planning
IGD Leadership Council



Charles E. Kolb
IGD Leadership Council



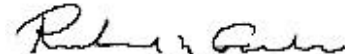
David Smukowski
Founder & Former
Senior Director
Boeing Ventures



Ralph D. Munro
Former Secretary of State
State of Washington



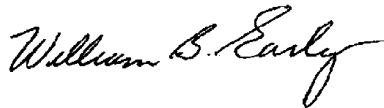
Jeff D. Pinneo
President & CEO
Horizon Air Industries, Inc.



Richard Gardner
Professor of Law and
International Organization
Columbia University



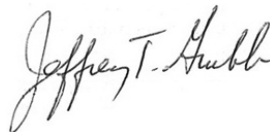
Adrienne Medawar
President Emeritus
Los Angeles Town Hall



Bill Early
Former Senior Vice President
JELD-WEN, inc.



Paul Abel
Managing Partner
Blue Research



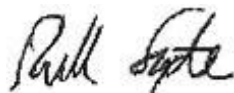
Jeffrey T. Grubb
Executive Vice President
Wells Fargo & Company



N. Robert Stoll
Partner
Stoll Stoll Berne Lokting
and Shlachter P.C.



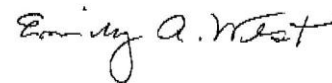
H. Stewart Parker
President & CEO
Targeted Genetics
Corporation



Ron Saxton
Senior Vice President
JELD-WEN, inc.



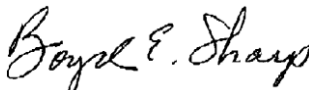
Tim Paulson
West Coast Advertisement
Sales Manager
The Economist



Emily A. West
Executive Director
The West Foundation, Inc.



Peg Birk
Former Interim President
The McKnight Foundation



Boyd E. Sharp
Former Chairman
Rigel Capital Management



Mark Frandsen
President & CEO
New Season Foods, Inc.



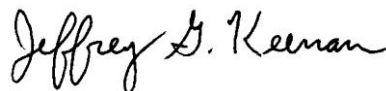
Peter Gishuru
President and CEO
African Chamber of Commerce



Michael T. Galgon
Co-founder & Chief Strategy Officer
aQuantive, Inc.



Charles K. Barbo
Former Chairman
Shurgard Storage



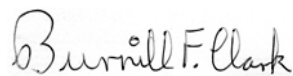
Jeff Keenan
Strategic Initiatives Program Manager
Global Supply Chain Management
Adobe Systems Incorporated



Richard J. Robbins
President
The Robbins Group LLC



Odo G. Habeck
CEO
Michael Kenwood
Consulting, LLC



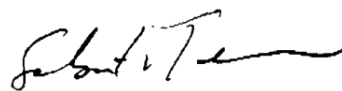
Burnill F. Clark
Former President & CEO
KCTS Television



Bill Owens
Chairman & CEO
USN (Ret)
AEA Holdings Asia



Ricardo J. Rodriguez
Vice President
Morgan Stanley & Co.
Incorporated



Sebastian Teunissen
Executive Director
Clausen Center for International
Business and Policy
University of California, Berkeley



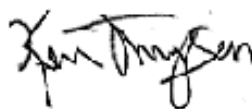
Travis J. Sullivan
Director
International Trade Policy
The Boeing Company



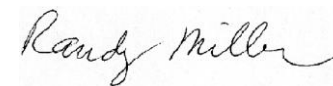
Herman L. McKinney
Vice President
Urban Affairs
Urban Enterprise Center



John M. Kaestle
President & CEO
HaloSource, Inc. Consulting



Ken Thompson
Former Executive Vice President
ARCO



Randolph L. Miller
Chairman
The Moore Company



Dick Simon
Owner
RSI, Inc.



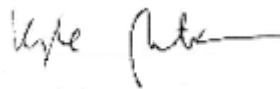
Duncan Wyse
President
Oregon Business Council



Llewelyn G. Pritchard
Attorney at Law
Helsell, Fetterman, et al.



Ron Auer
President & CEO
Ten Asset Management



Kyle Peterson
Former Account Executive
Hill & Knowlton, Inc.



Paul C. Suzman
President
OfficeLease



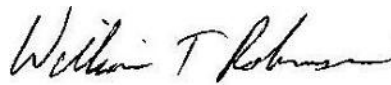
Charles Slaughter
Founder, TravelSmith
President, Healthstore Foundation



Nishith Acharya
Executive Director
The Deshpande Foundation



Dolores Connolly
CEO
Sterling Engineering, Inc.



William T. Robinson
Attorney At Law
Law Offices of
William T. Robinson PLLC



Douglas A. Crane
Executive Director
Crane Family Foundation



Doug Boyden
Former Managing Director
Mercer Human Resource



Stephen R. West
President
The West Foundation, Inc.



Stan Emert
Managing Director
Corporate Social Responsibility
Symetra Financial



Charles M. Denny
Former CEO
ADC
Telecommunications, Inc.

Joe Slaughter
Joe Slaughter
President & CEO
Herff Jones

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Murtlow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ann Murtlow
President & CEO
Indianapolis Power & Light Company