

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 19, 2011

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

While we fully support providing emergency funding to those who have been impacted by Hurricane Irene and other natural disasters, we urge you not to pay for disaster relief by cutting programs that are designed to create new jobs and help ensure a strong domestic manufacturing sector.

The Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing (ATVM) Loan Program, also known as the Section 136 loan program, was authorized in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and signed into law by President George W. Bush. The program provides loans to automakers and auto parts manufacturers to help them retool manufacturing facilities in the United States to produce highly fuel efficient, advanced technology vehicles or components. In 2008, Congress approved \$7.5 billion of credit subsidy to support \$25 billion of loans to promote the production of energy efficient advanced vehicles and component parts.

The ATVM program has a demonstrated record of success and job creation. \$3.5 billion of credit subsidy has been used to make six loans totaling \$9.2 billion that created or saved 41,000 jobs in Tennessee, California, Indiana, Michigan, Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, and Ohio. It is expected that before the end of the year \$2.5 billion will be awarded to eleven more companies in Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, and Louisiana creating or saving an additional 35,000 to 40,000 jobs. There are already twelve projects in early stages of due diligence to compete for the remaining available loan authority and the Department of Energy continues to receive new applications every month. These projects could create more than 10,000 jobs, but not if the \$1.5 billion cut to the program is signed into law.

By 2025, automakers are going to be required to sell cars and trucks that have an average fuel economy of 54.5 mpg. Achieving this increase in fuel economy will require the widespread adaptation of advanced vehicle technologies such as batteries and electric vehicles. The ATVM loans are a critical

program that will ensure that the domestic auto manufacturers have the capacity to make these technologies here in the United States rather than import them from China and other countries.

While the government has a responsibility to fund disaster response in places that were devastated by Hurricane Irene or other natural disasters, it is unconscionable to use funds designed to create jobs in manufacturing states to pay for it. Many of the states that stand to benefit the most from this program are still suffering from higher than average unemployment rates, and are badly in need of the kind of good paying manufacturing jobs these loans will create.

The American people expect us to act quickly to create jobs and respond to those harmed by natural disasters. We urge you to advance a Fiscal Year 2011 Continuing Resolution that does not put these two important goals in conflict with one another and preserves funding for the Department of Energy's ATVM Loan Program.

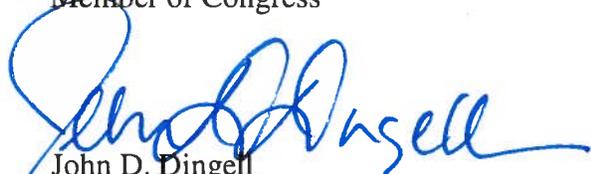
Sincerely,



Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress



Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress



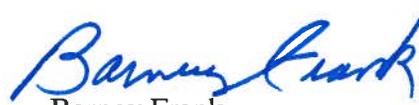
Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



George Miller
Member of Congress



John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Barney Frank
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi


John B. Larson
Member of Congress


Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress


Louise McIntosh Slaughter
Member of Congress


Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress


Dale E. Kildee
Member of Congress


Jackie Speier
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress


Betty Sutton
Member of Congress


Howard L. Berman
Member of Congress


Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress


Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress


Fortney Pete Stark
Member of Congress


Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress


James A. Himes
Member of Congress


Tim Ryan
Member of Congress


Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



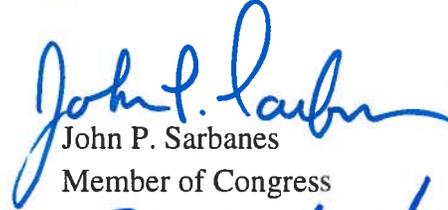
Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



John A. Yarmuth
Member of Congress



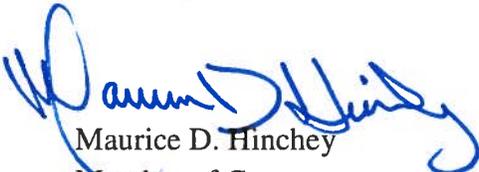
Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Lynn C. Woolsey
Member of Congress



Maurice D. Hinchey
Member of Congress



Jesse Jackson, Jr.
Member of Congress



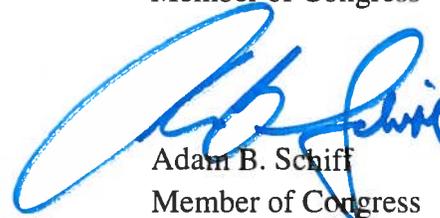
Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

Hansen Clarke

Hansen Clarke
Member of Congress

Jay Inslee

Jay Inslee
Member of Congress

Eliot L. Engel

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

John Garamendi

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

John F. Tierney

John F. Tierney
Member of Congress

Marcia L. Fudge

Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

Dennis J. Kucinich

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

Bob Filner

Bob Filner
Member of Congress

Linda T. Sanchez

Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

Keith Ellison

Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

Judy Chu

Judy Chu
Member of Congress

Brad Sherman

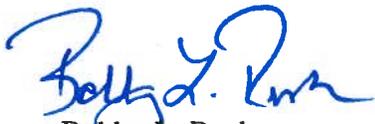
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Christopher S. Murphy

Christopher S. Murphy
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Rush D. Holt
Member of Congress



Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



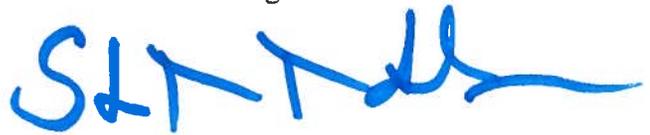
Mark S. Critz
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



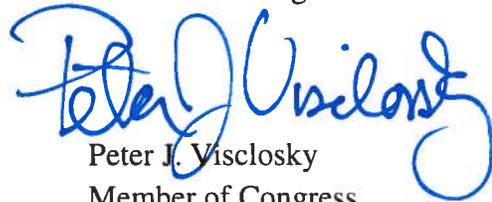
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Steven R. Rothman
Member of Congress



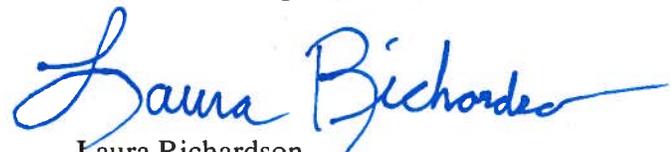
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



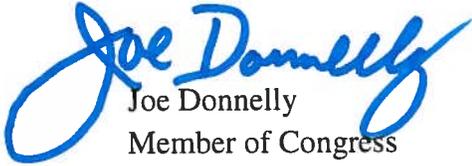
Laura Richardson
Member of Congress



Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



Joe Donnelly
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



James P. Moran
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress