United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 8, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, Chairman
The Honorable Thad Cochran, Vice Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
S-131, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman
The Honorable Judd Gregg, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on State and Foreign Operations
122 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairmen, Vice Chairman, and Ranking Member,

As your subcommittee begins to draft its appropriations bill for fiscal year 2010, we respectfully request your consideration of the following projects. These projects meet a local, state or national public need and maintain or create jobs.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES

Great Lakes Fishery Commission – Great Lakes Region
$23,000,000

The Great Lakes fisheries are worth over $7 billion to our region, and under the Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission is responsible for maximizing the sustained productivity of fish stocks in the region. The Commission's work in controlling sea lamprey is often cited as the single most effective program contributing to the recovery of the Great Lakes fisheries.

The proposed funding for the Commission would principally fund non-chemical alternative control of sea lamprey, as well as the assessment and treatment of lake larval lamprey populations with lampricide. Controlling sea lamprey is one of the requirements of the 2000 consent decree issued under *U.S. v. Michigan* in order to preserve tribal fishing rights. The proposed funding would also allow the Commission to coordinate fisheries research between the U.S. and Canada as called for under the treaty.

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Siena Heights University Center of International/Intercultural Affairs (CIIA) – Adrian, MI
$2,000,000

The Siena Heights University Center of International/Intercultural Affairs (CIIA) provides American students with the opportunity to study abroad and learn how varying world and cultural conditions influence people's lives and how to become competent citizens in a "global village" characterized by cultural and economic interdependence. Siena Heights University will offer its students international exchanges in areas that are not predominantly served by other U.S. Government exchange programs, such as exchange with developing countries and students and youth with high financial need.

Siena Heights University has exchange agreements with Yanshan University in China, Dar-es-Salaam University in Tanzania, and the University of Namibia. The CIIA will utilize this State Department funding to expand international exchanges in areas that are not predominantly served by other U.S. Government exchange programs, such as exchange with developing countries and students and youth with high financial need. This project directly correlates with U.S. State Department strategy to make in-roads in Africa and China and will send students with high financial need to those countries.

We certify that neither we nor our immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that we have requested for the Fiscal Year 2010 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

We further certify that we have posted a description of the items requested on our official websites, along with the accompanying justification.

We appreciate the subcommittee's consideration of our requests. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Kuiken of Senator Levin's staff at 202-224-6221 or Patty Readinger of Senator Stabenow's staff at 202-224-4822.

Sincerely,

Debbie Stabenow

Senator Debbie Stabenow

Carl Levin

Senator Carl Levin