

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



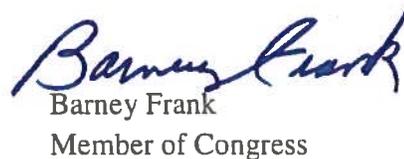
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Barney Frank
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cc: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi


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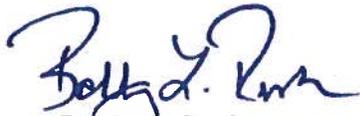
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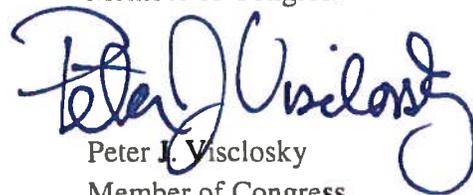
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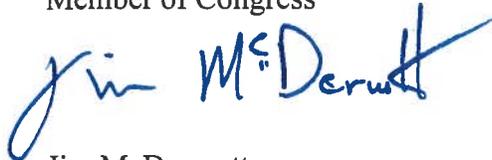


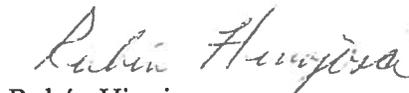
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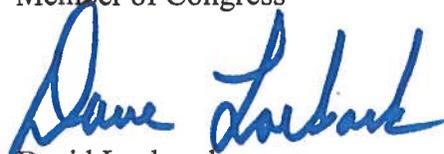


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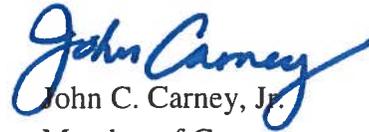

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