

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Republican Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

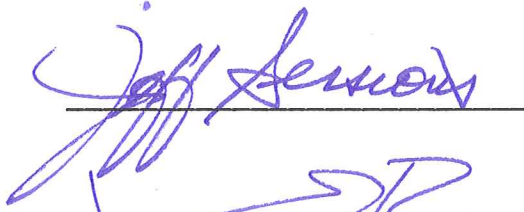
Dear Leader Reid and Leader McConnell;

We respectfully request that no treaties be brought to the Senate floor for advice and consent during the lame-duck session of the 112th Congress. In the wake of a Presidential election, we do not believe that this is an appropriate time for considering these matters.

Under Article 6, Section 2 of the Constitution, treaties that receive the advice and consent of the Senate will become the "supreme law of the land." The writers of the Constitution clearly believed that all treaties presented to the Senate should undergo the most thorough scrutiny before being agreed upon. The American people will be electing representatives and senators in November, and new representatives carrying the election mandate should be afforded the opportunity to review and consider any international agreements that are outstanding at the time of their election.

We also believe that other issues, most importantly addressing our nation's debt crisis, are higher priorities than any treaties currently awaiting ratification. We request that no treaties be brought to the Senate floor during a lame-duck period, and will oppose efforts to consider a treaty during this time.

Respectfully,




John
Leader Reid and Leader McConnell
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