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Collection Code: **SECLOG**

Staff Name: **PRESIDENT BUSH**

Document Date: **9/21/2008**

Correspondent: **DAN MEYER**

Subject/Description: **LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY MIL
RECEIVED SEP 15 08 THROUGH SEP 19 08**

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 2008

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
9/21-9/22/08

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: DAN MEYER
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY
MAIL RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 15th THROUGH SEPTEMBER 19th

CRISIS IN THE FINANCIAL MARKETS

- **Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D, CA-08)**
 - “The worsening crisis in our financial markets demands strong solutions and decisive leadership.”
 - “we need to understand how government failed to prevent this financial crisis, and how we can avoid future mismanagement and denial.”
 - “we have seen a reactive, case-by-case approach to a severe crisis – a crisis attributable in part to a history of indifference to responsible regulation of the financial markets. We need to hear from you about a comprehensive and effective systemic response to ongoing market turmoil”
 - “The worsening economy demands another bipartisan economic recovery effort. This effort must address:
 - investment in infrastructure for economic growth and job creation here at home
 - home heating assistance at a time of record energy costs
 - extended Unemployment Insurance for the growing number of Americans looking for work
 - Food Stamps that will help ensure we feed hungry families in a time of crisis
 - assistance to maintain critical health care coverage jeopardized by state budget cuts.”
 - “We stand ready to work with you and your Administration [‘beyond the targeted adjournment date of September 26’] to consider constructive solutions that stabilize our financial markets and balance accountability to the U.S. taxpayer with protecting American families from the crisis’s fallout.”

U.S. COMMITMENTS TO ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

- **Senator Jon Kyl (R, AZ), Senator Joseph Lieberman (I, CT), Senator Norm Coleman (R, MN)**
 - “We all share the goal of achieving peace between Israelis and Palestinians, and we strongly support your efforts and those of your administration to help the parties achieve progress towards this important goal.”
 - “we believe the commitments you made...to Israeli Prime Minister Sharon [in 2004] help further the process...:
 - “The United States reiterates its steadfast commitment to Israel’s security, including secure, defensible borders.
 - “In any final status agreement an agreed...establishment of a Palestinian state, and the settling of Palestinian refugees there

- “unrealistic to expect that the outcome of...negotiations will be a full and complete return to the armistice lines of 1949.”
- “we are concerned that recent public statements may have inadvertently fostered uncertainty as to whether you remain committed to these principles.”
- “also are concerned that any premature disclosure of the details of the negotiations by U.S. officials may negatively impact the ability of the two parties to reach consensus.”
- “it is essential as we move forward that all sides understand the positions of the U.S. that your administration has outlined represent lasting American commitments.”

RECONSTRUCTION OPPORTUNITY ZONES IN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN

- **Representative Chris Van Hollen (D, MD-08)**
 - “writing to follow up on our conversation about the initiative to authorize the establishment of Reconstruction Opportunity Zones in Pakistan and Afghanistan.”
 - “I have worked to further refine the initiative to establish these ROZs through the legislative process. In doing so I have added labor protections to ensure that core labor standards are met in the manufacture of textiles.”
 - “I understand that inclusion of [these] labor protections in the bill has raised concerns within the Administration.”
 - “despite repeated requests for specific comments...I still have yet to receive any proposed modifications to address any concerns.”