



Michigan



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Wisconsin

November 19, 2008

The Honorable Harry M. Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Boehner:

This week Congress will consider legislation that directs the Treasury Secretary to make \$25 billion in loans available to automakers and component suppliers under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. Because a bankruptcy in the auto industry during these troubling economic times would be crippling to efforts to immediately grow the economy, and because U.S. auto makers will be a critical component in developing an alternative energy industry in America, we urge Congress to pass this legislation immediately. We believe an agreement that makes loans available to the auto industry should protect the taxpayers - recipients should repay loans in a timely manner, craft a plan for long-term financial viability, and meet appropriate standards for executive compensation and governance. Passing this legislation now will protect millions of jobs - in a myriad of industries - across the country.

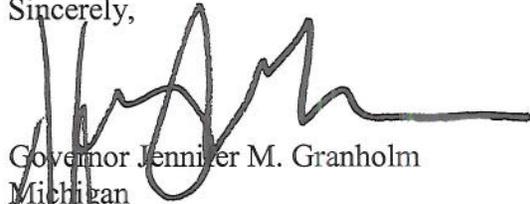
In the United States, the U.S. automakers directly employ almost 240,000 people, while another 730,000 are employed by component parts suppliers. Some estimates indicate that nearly 1 in 10 American jobs rely, in some way, on the auto industry. A total of two million employees, retirees, and dependents receive health care benefits from the auto manufacturers. The Center for Automotive Research recently reported that if one of the Detroit Three automakers ceased operations in 2009, nearly 2.5 million jobs would be lost in the first year alone. In addition, the first year of a bankruptcy would result in a loss of \$125 billion in personal income, \$17 billion in Social Security receipts, and \$20 billion in personal income taxes. Governors have already struggled to manage state economies that have seen the loss of more than 1.2 million jobs in the first ten months of

2008. Further losses would continue to depress an already fragile national economy, and would create an emergency situation in already struggling state economies.

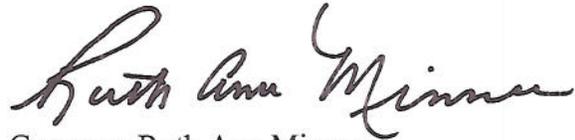
The auto industry intends to restructure to build the next generation of energy efficient and low carbon vehicles, but needs bridge loans in the immediate future to survive. Once the industry's immediate financial needs are met, the companies can then return to building the cars that will help the United States achieve energy independence. We must build fuel efficient vehicles in the United States to become energy independent, which also directly affects national security.

We appreciate the recent efforts of Congress to protect citizens and businesses against financial disaster, and urge you to act this week to help automakers avoid bankruptcy. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Governor Jennifer M. Granholm  
Michigan



Governor Ruth Ann Minner  
Delaware



Governor Rod Blagojevich  
Illinois



Governor Steven L. Beshear  
Kentucky



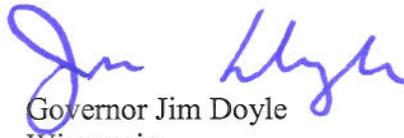
Governor David A. Paterson  
New York



Governor Ted Strickland  
Ohio



Governor M. Michael Rounds  
South Dakota



Governor Jim Doyle  
Wisconsin