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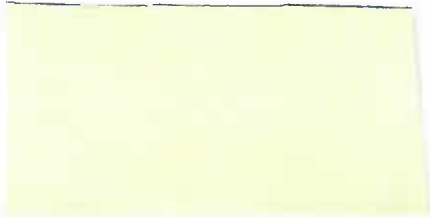
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COMMITTEES:
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3603

June 30, 2006



Thank you for contacting me regarding the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America. As your voice in Washington, I appreciate your taking the time to make me aware of your views and concerns.

On March 23, 2005, President Bush along with the Prime Minister Martin and President Fox launched the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP).

The protection of American citizens as well as the people of our peaceful neighbors is one of the two stated goals of the SPP. In an age of global terrorism, countries can increase their security by cooperating to defeat a common enemy. A threat against Canada threatens the lives of Americans living along our northern border. A Mexican nation that has the tools, information, and infrastructure available to identify and eliminate threats to innocent lives makes the lives of Americans safer. In this sense, taking steps that allow America, Mexico, and Canada to share and develop common methods of dealing with and eliminating these threats is sensible objective.

The other stated goal of the SPP is ensuring continued prosperity. Whether we like it or not, the world is changing. As countries trade and improve on what they do best, we must adapt if we are to remain competitive and prosperous. In order to ensure the future prosperity of America, the flow of goods and services must be able to safely and efficiently move in and out of our country. The SPP simply charts a course to ensure that improvements to investment, education, health, disease prevention, and research are not blocked by inefficient, outdated barriers.

Many are understandably concerned that this agreement was done in secret and erodes our national sovereignty. I too am concerned about maintaining the sovereignty of our nation. If you are familiar with my efforts to combat illegal immigration, combat global taxes, and combat certain international treaties such as the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, you already understand my protection of our nation's sovereignty. At this point in time, the SPP does not eliminate our borders, establish a North American Union, or take away our sovereignty. However, I will continually monitor the situation to make sure that no agreement goes that direction.

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Some on the left have suggested that the SPP should be a step towards establishing a North American Union based on the European model. I pledge to you now that I will oppose and actively work against any proposal that would undermine the sovereignty of the United States in any way.

Again, thank you for expressing your concerns to me. Do not hesitate to contact me again in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim", written in a cursive style.

James M. Inhofe
United States Senator

JMI:cp