

Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2007 9:44 AM

Subject: Response

Dear Mr. XXXX,

Thank you for writing to share with me your thoughts on the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP). I appreciate you taking the time to contact and encourage me. Please forgive this delayed response.

The SPP is an initiative the Bush administration launched in March 2005 to increase security and enhance the prosperity of the United States, Canada and Mexico through greater cooperation and information sharing. The stated purpose was to encourage North American countries to work toward creating safer and more secure borders, develop a shared plan on how to address a potential avian or pandemic influenza and other collaborative economic and safety initiatives.

Although the Bush administration had good intentions for creating the SPP, I am strongly opposed to America entering this type of agreement if it relinquishes our sovereignty. I am a staunch defender of U.S. sovereignty and will oppose any effort I see as detrimental to the ability of our nation to uphold our national interest.

I can assure you I will aggressively oppose any effort to infringe upon our national sovereignty and continue to monitor this situation. While a strong dialogue with Canada and Mexico on shared challenges is important, each nation has vastly different interests in terms of economic and defense policy. If the SPP presents a threat to American sovereignty, I will continue to aggressively stand in opposition to such partnerships. Congressman Virgil Goode of Virginia has introduced a resolution (H.C.R. 40) in the House of Representatives opposing the concept of a North American Union and a "NAFTA Superhighway." If legislation similar to H.C.R. 40 should be introduced in the Senate, I will support it.

Thank you again for contacting me about this issue. It is important citizens like you make your voice heard to protect U.S. sovereignty. I hope you, and the other Oklahomans who have written me about this partnership, will continue your role as citizen watchdogs. Please feel free to contact me again with any other questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,
Tom A. Coburn, M.D.
United States Senator

TC: hvd
