

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 29, 2009

The Honorable Ronald Kirk
United States Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20508

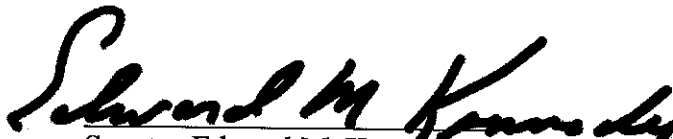
Dear Ambassador Kirk:

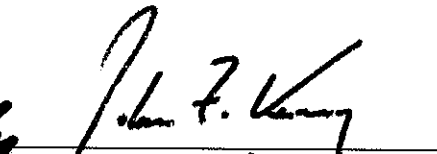
We are writing to express our strong agreement with the very thoughtful and comprehensive letter that Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley sent to you on June 3rd. We share the Attorney General's concern that provisions in the proposed settlement of Antigua's World Trade Organization internet gambling case could have an adverse impact on the ability of federal, state and local authorities to review, authorize and otherwise regulate the approval and oversight process for liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities.

As the Congressional representatives for the city of Fall River, Massachusetts, we have been involved in a protracted and extremely complicated dispute over an attempt to place an LNG facility in the middle of a densely populated urban area. Given the wide range of serious environmental, public health, safety, and security concerns associated with the transportation, transfer and storage of LNG, we believe that it is vitally important that the multiple federal, state and local authorities currently involved in LNG regulation are not preempted or circumscribed from carrying out their oversight responsibilities pursuant to federal and state laws. We therefore strongly urge you to include clear and explicit language excluding LNG services from inclusion in the "warehousing and storage" services sector referenced in the proposed settlement of the Antigua WTO gambling case.


Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,


Senator Edward M. Kennedy


Senator John F. Kerry


Congressman Barney Frank


Congressman James P. McGovern