



*Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515*

*Nancy L. Johnson  
Fifth District, Connecticut*

July 25, 2006

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rice:

I applaud your recent announcement to establish a buffer zone in the south of Lebanon and deploy an international force there for a temporary period of time. Additionally, the humanitarian assistance of \$30 million the U.S. is pledging as well as the goal of raising \$150 million for Lebanon is essential to protecting and assisting those most in need.

I write to urge you to ensure a safe corridor in Lebanon so that humanitarian assistance can get to innocent Lebanese civilians and so that those wishing to evacuate can do so safely and quickly. My heart goes out to the thousands of innocent civilians being caught in the terrible violence of this war.

In addition, I urge you to help generate the international backing, including that of the Arab League, that the Lebanese Government must have to disarm Hezbollah of its thousands of missiles and extend government control over southern Lebanon. Only if the people of Lebanon back a government that controls their national security and prohibits Hezbollah from controlling regions and provoking aggression can peace and security be re-established. We should help them attain that goal.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and it is my hope that with your help, this situation can be resolved quickly.

Very truly yours,

Nancy L. Johnson  
Member of Congress