Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 10, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House H-232, U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Barney Frank Chairman Committee on Financial Services 2129 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Chairman Frank,

As you know, pursuant to its authority under the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), the Treasury Department has distributed – or made commitments to distribute – some \$335 billion to a wide range of U.S. financial institutions, including \$40 billion to prevent the failure of American Insurance Group (AIG) and a total of \$50 billion in capital and loss protection to Citigroup. To date, not a single Chief Executive Officer from any TARP participant has been called to testify before the Committee on Financial Services regarding their need for – or use of – the hundreds of billions of taxpayers' dollars they have received.

By contrast, the Chief Executive Officers of the Ford Motor Company, General Motors, and Chrysler have each testified twice before the Committee – as well as twice before the Senate Banking Committee – in connection with congressional consideration of possible bridge loans or lines of credit to those companies.

To avoid a double standard and ensure accountability and taxpayer protection in the implementation of the TARP, we request that you immediately invite the appearance of CEOs from institutions that have received TARP funds before the Financial Services Committee to explain:

- How their institution's actions may have contributed to the credit crisis, and whether their institution's decisions not to use TARP funds to extend consumer, commercial or other credit may have prolonged the credit crisis unnecessarily;
- What remedial steps, if any, their institution has taken before, during, and after the credit crisis to address risk management failures and to protect consumers and taxpayers;
- How their institution has utilized and will utilize TARP funds received to date, including the extent to which the funds have been or will be used for lending purposes; and

4. How and when their institution expects to be able to repay taxpayers.

We look forward to your response and to working with you on behalf of the American people.

Sincerely,

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