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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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January 23, 2009

The Honorable David Skaggs
Chairman
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Porter Goss
Co-Chairman
Office of Congressional Ethics
1017 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Skaggs, Co-Chairman Goss, and OCE Board Members:

I write to thank you for the efforts you have already undertaken in your work for the Office of Congressional Ethics, and particularly in drafting the OCE's rules of procedure, which are being publicly discussed today. As Chairman of the Special Task Force on Ethics Enforcement, it is with great interest that I have followed developments in the establishment of the OCE, and I am very pleased with your progress to that end.

I have had the opportunity to read the draft rules of procedure the OCE has circulated for public comment, and I believe they accurately reflect the Congressional intent expressed in H. Res. 895 of the 110th Congress. You and your staff are to be commended for your diligence in ensuring that the Office authorized by the House of Representatives has a functioning process from which all stakeholders can expect accountability and transparency. I am more than satisfied that the rules of procedure as drafted will serve you well as you begin the tasks assigned to the OCE.

The Speaker and Minority Leader clearly appointed thoughtful, dedicated, and honest members to the board of the OCE. Please accept my thanks and best wishes as you move forward and formally adopt rules of procedure for the Office of Congressional Ethics.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress

cc:

The Honorable Yvonne Burke
The Honorable Karan English
Ms. Allison Hayward

Mr. Jay Eagan
The Honorable William Frenzel
The Honorable Abner Mikva