United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 6, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H232 Capitol Washington, DC 20515-6501

Dear Madam Speaker:

We are writing to urge you to remove previously House-passed language included in Sen. AMDT. 4575 that solely discriminates against our State. Again, this amendment singles out only the State of Texas. It would force Texas to certify the maintenance of fiscal year 2011 funding levels for two additional fiscal years, above and beyond the one-year requirement imposed on all other 49 States.

This provision would have Texas violate her own State Constitution. The Texas Legislature has sole authority to determine State appropriations. Moreover, one Legislature cannot bind a future Legislature. Requiring the State to assure that a future Texas Legislature would commit to spend funds in accordance with these provisions would violate the Texas Constitution. Texas is constitutionally prohibited from meeting these severe restrictions, and no other state in the nation is subject to these additional requirements.

According to the Congressional Research Service, the State's share of the \$10 billion is estimated to be over \$830 million. By adding the additional two-year requirement, the House language only punishes Texas students and teachers. Therefore, we urge you to strike the previous House-passed provision in the bill.

Sincerely,

JOHN CORNYN

United States Senator

KAYBAILEY HUTCHISON

United States Senator

Joe Barton, MC	Michael Burgess, MC
Michael Conaway, MC	John Culberson, MC
Kay Grange, MC	Jeb Hensarling, MC
Sam Johnson, MC	Kenny Marchant, MC
Michael McCaul, MC	Randy Neugebauer, MC
Pete Olson, MC	Ron Paul, MC
Ted Poe, MC	Pete Sessions, MC
Lamar Smith, MC	Mac Thornberry, MC
Ralph Hall, MC	John Carter, MC

Foris Sohnt

Louie Gohmert, MC

Kevin Brady: MC