Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 18, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write regarding the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act (H.R.847/S.1334), which would guarantee long-term health care and compensation to those who rushed to our country's aid after 9/11 or were innocent victims of the attacks.

After conflicting statements from Secretary Sebelius to our delegation on January 27th, we were appreciative to hear your comments on February 3rd that you are willing to work with us on the bill. You rightfully mentioned that your budget has more than doubled funding to \$150 million for the current WTC health programs, and we are very grateful for your commitment to this short-term solution. However, as I am sure you would agree, we need to move forward with a permanent long-term, fiscally responsible solution.

Through many hours of hard work, our entire New York delegation has come together with a bipartisan solution that accomplishes our shared goal of honoring the living victims of 9/11 and not adding to the deficit. We believe that if you are presented with the facts about our legislation, you would want to support the bill in its current form. The 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, the cost of which will be fully offset, will guarantee that we permanently meet our country's moral obligation to help. We hope that you will join us in our efforts.

We respectfully request a meeting with you as soon as possible so that we can move forward to resolve this issue. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Gillibrand

U.S. Senator

CHARLES E. SCHUMER

U.S. Senator

CAROLYN B. MALONEY

Member of Congress

JERROLD NADLER Member of Congress

MICHAEL E. McMAHON Member of Congress PAUL TONKO MAURICE D. HINCHEY Member of Congress Member of Congress ANTHONY D. WEINER Member of Congress Member of Congress TIMOTHY #. BISHOP NITA M. LOWEY Member of Congress Member of Congress GARY L. ACKERMAN E E. SERRANO Member of Congress iber of Congress Member of Congress STEVE ISRAEL Member of Congress