

COALITION LETTER TO SENATE TO SENATE ON EMINENT DOMAIN REFORM

October 18, 2006

The Honorable Bill Frist (R-TN)
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Frist:

Since June of 2005, American property owners, advocacy groups and everyday citizens of every socioeconomic, political and ideological background have united as one in defense of their Constitutional protection to private property. Committed to correcting the United States Supreme Court's misjudgment in the *Kelo v. City of New London*, everyday citizens have voiced their support for Congressional action to limit private lands from being seized for private economic development by the government.

We, the undersigned organizations wish to, once again, express our support for Senate legislation to correct this injustice during the final session days of the 109th Congress.

Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) has introduced S. 3873, the "**Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2006**" as the Senate means to correct this instance of judicial activism. As the companion legislation to the bipartisan H.R. 4128 passed in the House, S. 3873 similarly seeks to curb eminent domain abuse by withholding federal economic development funds from states and localities that engage in these abusive practices.

Opponents of reforming these abusive practices have vehemently stood against any legislative action, arguing for the necessity for expanded resources to encourage economic development in their communities. It is important to note, however, that these measures do not infringe upon a state's Constitutional right to seize private lands for the public good with just compensation. Rather the aim is to curb eminent domain abuse in which taxpayers finance private projects and property acquisition by the government.

The passage of legislation is essential in reaffirming the rights of American property owners. As shown by countless opinion polls, the public overwhelmingly disapproves of the Supreme Court's ruling and expects Congressional action. The freedoms enshrined by the Framers of the Constitution over two hundred years ago must be once again upheld and protected by Congress today.

Sincerely,

(Last name, first)

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Barr, Congressman Bob (Chairman)
Blankenship, Greg (President)
Brouillette, Matthew (President)
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Citizens for Limited Taxation
Citizen Outreach
Patriots to Restore Checks and Balances
Illinois Policy Institute
Commonwealth Foundation
Media Freedom Project
Independence Institute
American Association of Small Property Owners
Missouri Citizens for Property Rights
Americans for the Preservation of Liberty
American Shareholders Association

Cushman, Chuck (President)
Day, Liam (Development Manager)*
Derry, Chris (President)
DeWeese, Tom (President)
Ebell, Myron (Director, Energy and Global Warming Policy)
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American Land Rights Association
Pioneer Institute
Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions
American Policy Center
Competitive Enterprise Institute
Alliance for Worker Freedom
Maryland Taxpayers Alliance
League of Private Property Voters
Rio Grande Foundation
Rightmarch.com
Property Rights Alliance: Hawaii
Montana Policy Institute
Missouri First
Tennessee Center for Policy Research
Ronald Reagan Legacy Project
Small Business Entrepreneurship Council
FreedomWorks
Pennsylvania Landowners' Association
Property Rights Alliance
Frontiers of Freedom
Pius Pagan Publishing
American Conservative Union
Americans for Prosperity-New Jersey
60+ Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
Center for Individual Freedom
Ethan Allen Institute
James Madison Institute
South Carolina Policy Council
Nevada Policy Research Institute
California Alliance to Protect Private Property Rights
National Taxpayers Union
Alabama Farmers Federation
Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs
South Carolina Landowners Association
PROTEX
Americans for Tax Reform
Paragon Foundation, Inc.
Liberty Coalition
Alabama Policy Institute
American Family Business Institute
Americans for Prosperity
Pacific Research Institute
Ohio Taxpayers Association and OTA Foundation
Iowa Wednesday Group
National Center for Public Policy Research
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii
Coalition for Property Rights-Florida
Council for Citizens Against Government Waste
Eagle Forum
Reason Foundation
North Carolina Property Rights Coalition
Citizens for Property Rights-Vermont
Small Business Hawaii (SBH)
The Taxpayers League of Minnesota
Virginia Institute for Public Policy
Mississippi Center for Public Policy
Americans for Limited Government
National Grange
GOP Blogger.com
Republican Liberty Caucus
The Rutherford Institute
Evergreen Freedom Foundation
Castle Coalition

Cc: All United States Senators

*For identification purposes only