

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 3, 2012

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington DC, 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing today in support of a strong United States-Sri Lanka partnership. After three decades of internal strife, Sri Lanka has an opportunity to move forward as a unified nation guided by its democratic ideals and institutions. The United States and Sri Lanka have a proud history of mutual commitment, and we believe that strong American support can have a significant mutual benefit and positive influence on Sri Lanka's future economic and social prosperity.

In post-conflict Sri Lanka, we are encouraged by significant progress in resettling almost all of the hundreds of thousands of internally displaced persons and providing family reunification, vocational training and job placement for those Sri Lankans. In addition, we are encouraged by the ongoing negotiations with minority political parties and the strengthening of the democratic process. We welcome Sri Lanka's willingness to preemptively report on its civil conflict by establishing a politically diverse and independent Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission. As Sri Lanka pursues these positive steps, it should know it has a friend in the United States.

A strong relationship between the United States and Sri Lanka supports joint economic prosperity in areas of trade, job creation and foreign direct investment. Of particular note, we understand that Sri Lanka has opened dialogues with a number of U.S. companies for the acquisition of heavy equipment, aircrafts, energy technologies and other products necessary for its development efforts. In addition, we look forward to opportunities to strengthen our mutual strategic interests in foreign policy and defense by maintaining the peace in the waterways near and along the Indian Ocean and continuing a military training partnership.

For the first time in more than a generation, the United States has an opportunity to develop a relationship with a united Sri Lanka. Accordingly, we urge your Administration to take steps to strengthen our ties with Sri Lanka.

Sincerely,



Hooper

Michael T. McEaul

Jeffrey

Mary Tompso

Del Jiri

DiRedd

Ben Chandler

Judy Chu

Hansen Clark

Ed Royce