

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2008

The Honorable Barney Frank
Chairman
Committee on Financial Services
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

Dear Chairman Frank,


We are writing to express our concern regarding a provision in H.R. 7321, the Auto Industry Financing and Restructuring Act, which requires the automotive companies receiving federal assistance to divest of all of their private business aircraft.

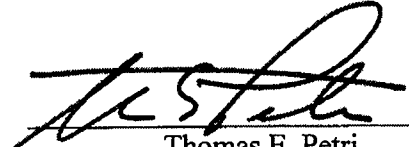
It is our understanding that Congress intends for this to be a one-time provision specifically drafted to address public and congressional concern about the use of executive aircraft by the auto industry. It was not Congress' intent to set a precedent with this provision regarding U.S. public policy towards general aviation.

The general aviation industry contributes more than \$150 billion to the U.S. economy annually and employs more than 1,265,000 people. The U.S. general aviation industry leads the world in the manufacture of business aircraft, and it is one of the few industries that still has a positive U.S. trade balance. Although this bill is aimed at helping the U.S. automotive manufacturers, we fear that if this provision is replicated in future legislation, it could actually hurt our domestic manufacturing industry.

We respectfully request your timely response to our correspondence and further clarification on the intent of this provision. Thank you for your attention to our request.

Sincerely,


Vernon J. Ehlers


Thomas E. Petri


John Barrow