



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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February 24, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House

Dear President Bush:

On behalf of leaders of The United States Conference of Mayors, gathered during our 2006 Winter Leadership Meeting, we urge you to suspend the proposed business transaction to allow Dubai Ports World, headquartered in the United Arab Emirates, to run significant operations at ports in New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New Orleans and Miami. We ask that you then require the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) to commence an immediate 45-day investigation on the takeover's effects on national security.

By taking these actions, the Administration will have greater opportunity to inform mayors, Congress, and the American public regarding the many complicated issues surrounding this matter.

Since September 11, 2001, our organization has focused tremendous effort on the issue of port security. During our leadership meeting, we heard from several Administration officials regarding steps that have been taken to improve port security. But we continue to hear serious security concerns regarding this transaction and on port security in general from our mayoral members, and we urge that the Administration suspend the transaction until the security of America's ports can be assured.

Thank you for your continued attention to the needs of America's mayors, our cities, and the security of the nation. If you have any questions, please contact our Executive Director Tom Cochran or Assistant Executive Director Ron Thaniel at (202) 293-7330.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Beverly Neill in cursive script.

Mayor of Long Beach
President

Handwritten signature of Doug Hat in cursive script.

Mayor of Trenton
Advisory Board Chair

Handwritten signature of the Mayor of Baltimore in cursive script.

Mayor of Baltimore
Co-Chair, Homeland Security Task Force

Handwritten signature of the Mayor of Sugar Land in cursive script.

Mayor of Sugar Land
Co-Chair, Homeland Security Task Force

Myer E. Oberholzer
Mayor of Virginia Beach, VA

Manuel Diaz
Mayor of Miami, FL

Paul Gill
Mayor of Akron, Ohio

Carroll
Mayor of Gary, IN

Dr. James W. Holley III
Mayor of Portsmouth, VA

R. P. ...
Mayor of Nashville

M. Bell
Mayor of Columbus

Mike ...
Mayor of Oklahoma City, OK

Jim ...
Mayor of North Little Rock, AR

Paul ...
Mayor of Council Bluffs

Elizabeth ...
Mayor of Bardonia, NY

Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago, IL

John ...
Mayor of Elizabeth, NJ