

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 1, 2006

Dr. Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

As you know, last Wednesday, President Bush signed into law the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for FY07 (H.R. 5122), which included a provision we sponsored that requires the development of a comprehensive stabilization and reconstruction strategy for Somalia. While numerous U.S. government officials have sketched out a “three-pronged” strategy for Somalia in formal testimony, the Congress has not yet received detail about the specific tasks, required resources, personnel, or contingencies related to this strategy.

Given the ongoing instability in Somalia, we urge you to use this requirement as an opportunity to clearly spell out the specific objectives, resource commitments, and challenges associated with a plan to establish stability in Somalia and throughout the Horn of Africa, as well as to clarify contingency plans and possible obstacles to executing this strategy.

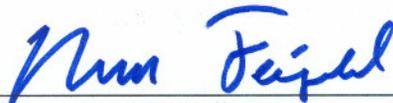
More specifically, Congress would benefit from a report that includes:

- The overall mission, goals, objectives, and tasks associated with establishing stability and a lasting peace in Somalia and throughout the Horn of Africa.
- A clear delineation of key tasks required of each Department or agency to execute this strategy.
- A detailed description of resources available and needed for executing this strategy, including funds available in FY2006 and FY2007, and projected needs for FY2008.
- Clear benchmarks and/or indicators associated with each specific objective and task. Benchmarks do not need to be concrete or fixed; instead, they should represent how the interagency will measure its own progress and how it will know if and when a change in policy is warranted.

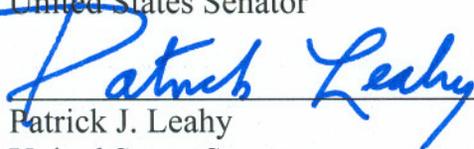
- A contingency plan that includes key actions, tasks, and coordination efforts to be executed in the event of a full-scale civil or regional war.
- A summary of the personnel involved in Somalia-related policy and strategy, as well as a description of the coordination mechanisms that exist to manage interagency efforts pertaining to Somalia.
- A description of the challenges, obstacles, and/or contingencies that may have an impact on U.S. government policies and objectives.

The U.S. and the international community must do more to help stabilize and bring peace to Somalia and to the Horn of Africa. Again, we hope you look at this reporting requirement as an opportunity to share with Congress your strategy and resources so that we can become a partner in helping to establish stability in such a critical part of the world.

Sincerely,



Russell D. Feingold
United States Senator



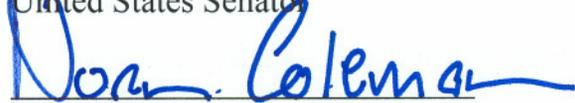
Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senator



Barack Obama
United States Senator



Carl Levin
United States Senator



Norm Coleman
United States Senator

CC: Assistant Secretary Jendayi Frazer