Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 6, 2007

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

Dear Mr. President:

As you travel to Montebello, Canada later this month for a summit with your Canadian and Mexican counterparts, we want you to be aware of serious and growing concerns in the U.S. Congress about the so-called Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) you launched with these nations in 2005.

We share your desire to promote good relations with our neighbors to the north and south. There are, of course, areas in which collaboration between the three nations is both sensible and necessary. For example, further development of the energy resources of Canada and Mexico would benefit North America as a whole. And cooperation in matters of national security is something the three North American nations have engaged in for many years.

The SPP process, however, is being conducted in a secretive manner with a view to "harmonizing" U.S., Canadian and Mexican policies, regulations and practices in ways that may actually undermine our security and sovereignty. For instance, measures that would make it easier to move goods and people across borders could have the effect of further weakening this country's ability to secure its frontiers and prevent illegal immigration.

Such secretiveness seems not to be accidental. The public interest group Judicial Watch had to resort to use of the Freedom of Information Act to obtain notes from a "North American Forum" conference, attended by U.S. government and corporate officials. Conferees made reference to using a practice called "evolution by stealth" to prevent significant opposition from developing to the desired end-state: a supranational North American association of some kind.

The House of Representatives last week overwhelmingly and on a bipartisan basis adopted an amendment barring Transportation Department officials from participating in SPP-related meetings in the future. This vote is an indication of the serious concerns felt by those of us in Congress and by our constituents about this initiative – concerns that will only be intensified if pursuit of the SPP continues out of public view and without congressional oversight or approval.

We call on you not to pledge or agree to any further movement in connection with the SPP at the upcoming North American summit. Rather, in the interest of transparency and accountability, we urge you to bring to the Congress whatever provisions have already been agreed upon and those now being pursued or contemplated as part of this initiative, for the purpose of obtaining authorization through the normal legislative process. Only by so doing, can your partners in Canada and Mexico have confidence in the future application of such arrangements.

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Rep. Verry Everett	kep. Duncan Hunter
John lan ardo Rep. Tom Tancredo	Rep. Ted Poe
Rep Nancy Boyda	Natty & Jones Rep. Walter Jones
Rep. David Davis	Rep. Phil Gingrey
Rep. John Boozman	Rep. John Duncan
Rep. Vigil Goode	Rep. Tom Price

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Rep. Robert Aderholt

Rep. Jo Bonner Rep. Steve King Rep. Thaddeus McCotter

Rep. Todd Akin