

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4502

November 16, 2009

The Prince of Wales  
Clarence House, London, SW1A 1BA  
The United Kingdom

Your Royal Highness,

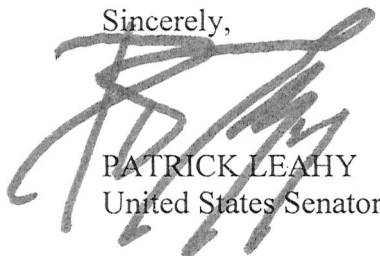
I write to convey my support for your efforts to protect the world's rainforests.

As chairman of the United States Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that funds international programs, I have included, with bipartisan support, \$275 million for programs to protect biodiversity and support sustainable landscapes in fiscal year 2010. These programs are funded through the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, with a focus on the protection of tropical forests. A significant portion of these funds will be utilized in the Amazon and Congo basin regions, and to support REDD. These programs are a key component of more than \$1.2 billion for global climate change and environment programs envisioned for the coming year, including our contributions to the Clean Technology Fund, the Strategic Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, and other mechanisms.

In addition, we are working to strengthen legislation to prevent the importation of illegal timber and endangered species of wildlife.

I recognize that far more is necessary to stop the destruction of the world's remaining rainforests, and I appreciate the attention you are giving to the need for enhanced global cooperation in this effort.

Sincerely,



PATRICK LEAHY  
United States Senator