

Senator Russ Feingold 506 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

December 1, 2010

Dear Senator Feingold:

As participants of the Prevention and Protection Working Group, we write to express our sincere admiration and gratitude for your leadership to help prevent and respond to mass atrocities and other violent conflict throughout your tenure in the Senate.

We are grateful that in your position as Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health, you tirelessly advocated for effective policies to end horrific violence and human rights abuses in Sudan, Uganda, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and elsewhere. Your transformation of this commitment and passion into practical legislative effort by holding countless hearings, introducing and supporting legislation, and traveling to the region made a difference to many people whose rights were violated. We will particularly miss your vigorous support for strengthening civilian capacities to prevent and respond to violent conflict, recognizing that without more effective nonmilitary tools, the US cannot effectively contribute to averting crises before the bloodshed begins.

As human rights, humanitarian, religious, and peace organizations dedicated to improving US capacities to help prevent deadly conflict and protect civilians threatened by it, we are particularly grateful for your leadership this year in introducing S.Con.Res.71, recognizing the importance of preventing and mitigating acts of genocide and encouraging efforts to avert these atrocities. This resolution is critical in galvanizing support to further develop civilian capacities which can prevent costly and devastating military intervention.

The loss of your leadership in the Senate on these and many other issues will be felt deeply by our community and many others. However, we want you to know that we are committed to continuing the work you started, and we hope to partner with you again in the future.

Again, we thank you for your tireless advocacy on behalf of communities at risk of, recovering from, or in the midst of violent conflict around the world. Your leadership in the Senate has touched the lives of many, and made US policy more humane and more effective.

Sincerely,

3D Security Initiative Alliance for Peacebuilding American Jewish World Service Auschwitz Institute for Peace and Reconciliation Better World Campaign Campaign for Innocent Victims in Conflict (CIVIC) Caring for Kaela Citizens for Global Solutions Enough Project Falling Whistles Friends Committee on National Legislation Fund for Peace Genocide Intervention Network/Save Darfur Coalition Human Rights First Humanity United Investors Against Genocide Leadership Conference of Women Religious Massachusetts Coalition to Save Darfur Mennonite Central Committee Washington Office Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Justice Peace/Integrity of Creation Office Resolve San Francisco Bay Area Darfur Coalition Stimson Center, Future of Peace Operations Program United Methodist Church General Board of Church and Society