

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
H-232 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
United States Senate Majority Leader  
S-221 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner  
Republican Leader of the House of  
Representatives  
H-204 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate Republican Leader  
S-230 United States Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

August XX, 2008

Dear Speaker Pelosi, House Republican Leader Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Reid,  
and Senate Republican Leader McConnell,

As you know, earlier this month the Russian Federation invaded Georgia's sovereign territory, killing civilians, attacking military installations, destroying civilian infrastructure, and causing a major refugee crisis. Notwithstanding prior Russian threats, Georgia has made strong efforts to politically, economically, and militarily integrate with nations of the Free World. Importantly, Georgia has been a close ally of the United States and deployed its forces to assist our efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as cooperated with the United States in a number of other counter-terrorism measures. Furthermore, Georgia lies on a strategically important East-West axis over which the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline provides the world with another alternative to dependency on Russian energy.

As leader of the Free World, it is important the United States continue to shine as a beacon of liberty to the world's oppressed. Consequently, to support our ally Georgia and her besieged people, we urge you to invite Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili to address a Joint Meeting of Congress. We believe this would provide an excellent opportunity to express the United States solidarity and commitment not only to Georgia, but to all of our allies in Central and Eastern Europe.

Respectfully,

Thaddeus G. McCotter  
Chairman of the Republican House Policy Committee