Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 13, 2009

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

In your Inaugural Address, you told millions of people all over the country that "the question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works - whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage." You also stated, "for as much as government can do and must do, it is ultimately the faith and determination of the American people upon which this nation relies."

With these statements in mind, we strongly disagree and urge you to reconsider the plan to eliminate more than 3,000 Chrysler and General Motors automotive dealerships, and put over 150,000 employees out of work. We view this plan as uninformed, unproductive, and unconstitutional.

Given the fact that your Auto Task Force has little to no automotive experience, we believe that their recommendation is extremely uninformed. These closings will not fix the litany of problems facing the automotive sector nor make it viable once again. This proposal will destroy small businesses, hurt families, and worsen the recession for communities all over America. This is not a time to reduce competition or eliminate revenue.

Further, this plan will be unproductive to the manufacturers and the economy. For years, dealerships have outsourced nearly 100% of the costs for servicing and selling new cars. Therefore, a further cut in revenue would diminish Chrysler and GM revenue. As hardworking Americans work together to pull our nation out of the worst economic recession in recent memory, closing dealerships could very well slow down the economic recovery.

We are also deeply disappointed that your task force would consider such a blatantly unconstitutional plan. Given that nowhere in the U.S. Constitution is the President given the power to make such bold demands on businesses, we urge you to reconsider these plans and refocus your Administration on its proper constitutional function. Government takeover of the automotive industry is unprecedented and unacceptable.

Your plan for fixing the economic model on the manufacturing side should not come at the expense of the jobs and small businesses that comprise the distribution side. We respectfully ask that you and your Administration reconsider this proposal. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

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