



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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June 28, 2010

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Health, Education, Labor and Pension
Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael Enzi
Ranking Member
Health, Education, Labor and Pension
Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairmen:

On behalf of the United States Conference of Mayors, I am writing in support of S. 1334, James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009. This legislation is a critical first step to providing long term and sustainable funding for a permanent monitoring and treatment system for thousands of first responders and others who became sick and are getting sicker from exposure to toxins released in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

During our 78th Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, the mayors of this nation unanimously supported a policy resolution calling for legislation that would permanently fund a monitoring and treatment program for Americans who can prove they were exposed to the WTC (World Trade Center) disaster and to permanently fund WTC-related health research to ensure appropriate use of federal funds for monitoring and treating WTC-exposed Americans. In addition, the mayors called for legislation that would re-open the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund.

We applaud Senator Gillibrand for her commitment to this issue and believe this legislation is a necessary measure to ensure that 9/11 rescue and recovery workers who risked their lives will receive the proper long-term medical care and support they deserve.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Conference staff Crystal Swann at 202-861-6707 or via email at cswann@usmayors.org. We appreciate your consideration and thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran".

Tom Cochran
CEO & Executive Director