

JOHNNY ISAKSON
GEORGIA

<http://isakson.senate.gov>

131 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-3643

ONE OVERTON PARK
3625 CUMBERLAND BOULEVARD, SUITE 970
ATLANTA, GA 30339
(770) 661-0999

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 16, 2012

FOREIGN RELATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS,
RANKING MEMBER

COMMERCE, SCIENCE
AND TRANSPORTATION

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE
SAFETY, RANKING MEMBER

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
VICE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
446 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6225

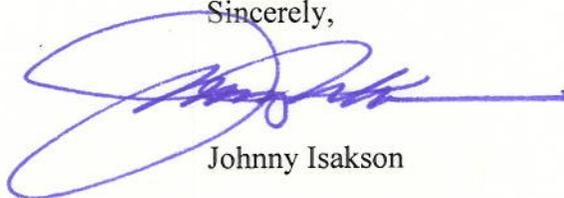
Dear Chairman Kerry:

When you first approached me last year to discuss United States accession to the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea, I expressed reservations over holding hearings to reconsider the Convention. I voted against accession to the Convention when it was last considered by the Committee in 2007, and did not believe that circumstances had changed in a way to warrant a shift in my position. Nevertheless, when you decided to move forward with hearings on the Convention, I pledged to you that I would attend all of the hearings and carefully consider the testimony of the witnesses.

After four hearings, I am still not convinced that it is in the national interest of the United States to accede to U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea. Therefore, I will oppose accession to the Convention both in Committee and on the floor of the Senate.

I thank you for your leadership of the Committee and appreciate your engagement on this issue.

Sincerely,



Johnny Isakson