

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 29, 2006

Honorable Peter King
Chairman
House Homeland Security Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Susan Collins
Chairman
Senate Homeland Security and
Government Affairs Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable James Sensenbrenner
Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Arlen Specter
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen,

Following passage of the Secure Fence Act of 2006, the following actions will be taken before adjournment of the 109th Congress:

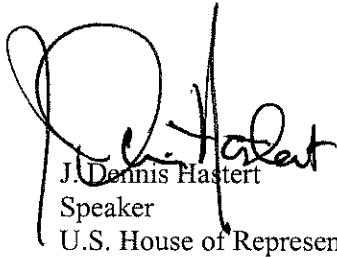
First we will work with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to ensure they consult with representatives of U.S. state and local governments, including Native American tribes, regarding the exact placement of fencing and other physical infrastructure along the southwest border of the United States.

Second, legislation should require the Secretary of Homeland Security to put fencing and physical barriers in areas of high illegal entry into the United States, yet allow flexibility to use alternative physical infrastructure and technology when fencing is ineffective or impractical.

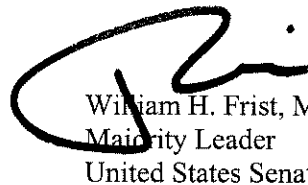
Third, the legislation should clarify the definition of operational control of the border to ensure accountability and a workable standard for the Department.

We have spoken to the Administration and know that they fully support these proposals and we expect that they will actively support our effort to make these changes before the end of the year.

Sincerely,



J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives



William H. Frist, M.D.
Majority Leader
United States Senate