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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4402

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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Timothy Geithner  
Secretary of Treasury  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Mr. Secretary:

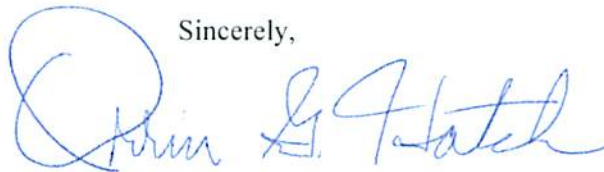
At this critical moment of our nation's economic health, I commend you and the Department of the Treasury for your tireless efforts to help rebuild our economy. I recognize the many demands competing for your immediate attention. However, let me suggest that an essential component of economic recovery and long-term economic health is for individual Americans to practice greater fiscal responsibility through increased saving.

Many Americans, much to their detriment, fail to recognize the importance of saving for the future. In particular, families with low to moderate incomes find it difficult to set savings aside from an already stretched income and often have limited access to high quality savings products. Yet, these low income families most need savings for protection against a job loss or sudden increase of expenses. For these reasons, I believe it is critical that we find sensible, low-cost saving policy options to encourage saving and investing among all Americans.

I would like to bring to your attention one particular affordable saving option for lower income families—the Savings Bond Working Group ([www.d2dfund.org/workinggroup](http://www.d2dfund.org/workinggroup)). Not only does the Savings Bond Working Group have my support, but also the support of groups such as the Community Action Partnership of Utah. The Working Group has demonstrated through a multi-year national pilot program that, contrary to popular belief, lower-income families are both capable of and willing to invest in U.S. Savings Bonds. The program, which offered savings bonds to low and moderate income taxpayers, clearly demonstrates that first-time, small balance savers are especially attracted to bonds.

It has come to my attention that the Savings Bond Working Group has requested to meet with Treasury in order to review the results of the previously mentioned pilot program. I encourage the Department of the Treasury to prioritize this meeting because I believe this program could prove beneficial to our efforts to revitalize the savings bond program.

Sincerely,



Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator