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# United States Senate

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July 18, 2006

The Honorable William Frist  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
The Capitol Building, S-230  
Washington, DC 20510

**BY HAND**  
**IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUESTED**

Dear Leader Frist:

Last summer, in the context of your work to bring the FDA Commissioner nomination to the Senate floor over my serious hesitations, we had discussions about also bringing a prescription drug reimportation bill to the Senate floor for a vote. The conclusions of those discussions were clear and precise: We agreed that, should a Senate floor vote on reimportation garner 60 votes or more, you would work in good faith toward a floor debate and vote on a reimportation bill this Congress.

Last week, the Senate finally held a clear, clean floor vote on reimportation—through my amendment to the Homeland Security Appropriations Bill. As you know, my amendment garnered 68 votes, well more than the 60-vote threshold we had established.

In light of our clear understanding, I am eager to work with you and all other interested Senators on scheduling a floor debate and vote on a reimportation bill for this September. I introduced a broad-based, bipartisan bill (S. 109), as have Senators Dorgan and Snowe (S. 334). Other leading Senators have clear thoughts on the subject, including Chairmen Enzi and Gregg. I believe that we can all sit down and agree on a floor process that is both efficient and expeditious, taking up no more than a few days of floor time, and one that ensures fair up-or-down votes on at least the two alternatives noted above as well as a limited number of amendments from Senators, including reimportation opponents.

Thank you for agreeing to meet with me later this week on this request. I very much look forward to working out the details of a constructive path forward pursuant to your commitment to me.

Sincerely,



David Vitter

CC:

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman  
The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
The Honorable Lincoln Chafee  
The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton  
The Honorable Susan M. Collins

The Honorable Kent Conrad  
The Honorable Mark Dayton  
The Honorable Jim DeMint  
The Honorable Byron Dorgan  
The Honorable Richard Durbin

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The Honorable Russell D. Feingold  
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
The Honorable James M. Jeffords  
The Honorable Tim Johnson  
The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy  
The Honorable John F. Kerry  
The Honorable Herb Kohl  
The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy  
The Honorable Carl Levin  
The Honorable Blanche L. Lincoln

The Honorable Trent Lott  
The Honorable John McCain  
The Honorable Bill Nelson  
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The Honorable Paul S. Sarbanes  
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The Honorable Arlen Specter  
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
The Honorable John Thune