

Rep. Jim McDermott

US House of Representatives

Washington, DC. 20515

October 4, 2009

Dear Rep. McDermott,

We, parishioners of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Parish in the Wedgwood neighborhood of Seattle, ask you to please cosponsor H.R. 2139, the Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act. This bill is a good first step in making our nation's foreign assistance more effective and streamlined. It requires the president to develop and implement a comprehensive national strategy for global development and includes other reforms to make U.S. foreign assistance more accountable and transparent.

U.S. foreign assistance has helped reduce child deaths, improve agricultural capacity, and increase school enrollment. But more lives can be saved if we improve the way foreign aid is delivered.

By making our foreign assistance more efficient and effective, it will have a greater impact on poor and hungry people around the world. Please cosponsor this important reform bill, H.R. 2139.

Sincerely yours,

Parishioners Our Lady of the Lake

Our Lady of the Lake Church Parish Office, 3517 NE 89th St., Seattle, WA 98115