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March 4, 2008

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice  
Secretary of State  
United States State Department  
7th Floor, 2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Secretary Rice,

I write to inquire about the status of Argentina's financial debt to American citizens and what steps are being taken to urge Argentina to honor its debt obligations. Along with many other Americans, Alaskan teachers have the potential to be negatively impacted if Argentina does not repay its debt.

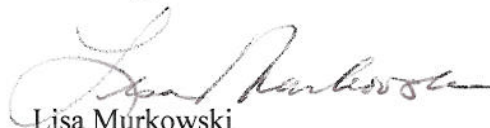
Following Argentina's 2004 final offer for restructuring over \$100 billion in debt, American pensioners and taxpayers are still owed more than \$3 billion which the Argentina government has refused to pay back, although it has seen fit to repay \$9.5 billion owed to the International Monetary Fund. TIAA-CREF, America's largest higher education pension fund, filed a lawsuit against Argentina in U.S. District Court for rejecting its debt responsibilities and breaking bond contracts with Americans. TIAA-CREF has lost more than \$100 million as a result of Argentina's delinquency.

The Alaska Community Colleges' Federation of Teachers has informed me that the retirement benefits of Alaskan teachers are especially at risk if Argentina does not repay its debts. Along those lines, I have been asked to call for hearings on this matter as a member of both the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

Accordingly, I request information on the Administration's position regarding Argentina's remaining debt obligations, what the State Department has done and is doing to urge Argentina to repay its debt, what Argentina's response to those efforts has been, and what future action you anticipate taking with regard to this issue.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senator