



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

October 29, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare to meet with President Hu during your visit to China next month, I urge you to prioritize the issue of contaminated drywall in your discussions.

In August, I traveled to China to meet with the representatives from the Chinese government's consumer product safety regulator, the General Administration of Quality, Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine (AQSIQ), in Shanghai for discussions on the drywall issue. During that meeting, I urged close coordination between our two governments in looking for tangible solutions for the tens of thousands of American homeowners whose homes, livelihoods, and health have been adversely affected by contaminated drywall imported from China.

I am pleased that a delegation from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) recently has returned from China following meetings with the ASQIQ. According to reports, the Chinese government pledged ongoing technical support on drywall testing, but has yet to offer any additional assistance.

That's why I'm asking you to raise the issue of contaminated drywall with President Hu during your upcoming visit. Our two countries must work together to remedy this situation and establish policies to make sure that contaminated building materials are not exported to the United States, and that the responsible parties help remediate the harm done.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing about how the People's Republic of China intends to address this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.