



January 2, 2009

The Honorable Joe Lieberman
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
706 Hart
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Confirmation of Governor Janet Napolitano to Department of Homeland Security

Dear Chairman Lieberman,

On behalf of the Greater Nogales and Santa Cruz County Port Authority (the Port Authority) I write to express our strong support for the nomination of Governor Janet Napolitano to be the next Secretary of Homeland Security.

As an Arizona community we have enjoyed our work with the Governor on many fronts to ensure that small communities like ours get the attention they deserve. As a community that borders with Mexico we have also worked extensively with the Governor on many fronts, including enhancing our security, facilitating trade, improving our physical border infrastructure and ensuring the appropriate staffing of key enforcement agencies such as Customs and Border Protection and the Border Patrol.

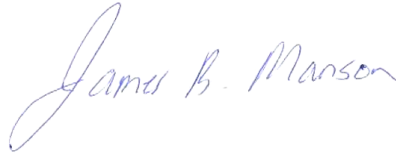
In particular, permit us to list just some of the key issues that we have had the fortune and pleasure of working on with the Governor, including infrastructure issues such as the Reconfiguration of the Nogales West (Mariposa) border station, immigration issues such as the implementation of the US-VISIT program and the related Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHITI), the coordination of hours of operation between US and Mexican customs officials, addressing food safety issues for the approximately 4 billion pounds of fresh produce that cross through Nogales each year and much, much more. We are confident that the Governor brings not just policy and administrative experience but also will bring the realities of the border to decision making in Washington, D.C. In other words, no one will be able to "tell her about it" because she has already lived it.

The Honorable Joe Lieberman
January 13, 2008

The Port Authority is comprised of the key stakeholders in the community, including the City of Nogales, Santa Cruz County, the Fresh Produce Association of the Americas, the Customs Brokers Association of Nogales, the Maquila Association of Sonora, Santa Cruz Tourism Council, the Nogales Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce, and the Nogales Community Development Corporation.

We stand ready to offer additional testimony in support of her nomination and hope that you and your Senate colleagues will work to complete the confirmation process as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James B. Manson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James B. Manson
Chairman

cc: The Honorable John McCain, Senator
The Honorable Jon Kyl, Senator