

HARRY REID
NEVADA

MAJORITY LEADER

07-000960-C
United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7012

OS EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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February 16, 2007

The Honorable Carlos M. Gutierrez
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Gutierrez:

Congress recently passed an enhanced Continuing Resolution that included funding for the FY2007 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations Bill. As you know, this late action on FY2007 funding for most federal departments and agencies was the direct result of the 109th Congress' failure to complete nine of the eleven appropriations bills.

Given we are nearly half way through the fiscal year before the enactment of final funding levels, most federal departments and agencies face significant challenges and decisions about how to use the funds they were provided. I encourage you to use the bill reported out of the Republican-controlled Senate Appropriations Committee during the 109th Congress as guidance when you determine how to allocate your department's funds in Fiscal Year 2007.

I strongly support the priorities included in this bill. I believe they are essential to the nation and to my home state of Nevada. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,


HARRY REID
United States Senator