

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2503

September 24, 2008

The Honorable Henry M. Paulson, Jr.
Secretary of the Treasury
U.S. Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Ben Bernanke
Chairman of the Board of Governors
U.S. Federal Reserve System
Washington, D.C. 20551

Dear Secretary Paulson and Chairman Bernanke:

Thank you for testifying before the U.S. Senate on the current financial market crisis and its threat to the broader economy and all American families. I too believe we must act and act quickly, but we must also act responsibly to resolve this crisis.

Any program to stabilize our financial system must increase accountability so that we do not reward those who put us in this situation, increase oversight so that taxpayer dollars are protected and mistakes are not repeated, and increase transparency so that everyone can know that their money is safe.

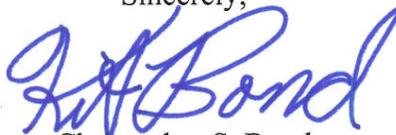
Folks in Missouri are worried about what this crisis means for their own financial security. They want to know that this crisis will not spread from Wall Street to Main Street. They want to know that job loss hitting Wall Street traders and brokers will not spread to their small town jobsites and workplaces.

However, families and workers in Missouri also want to know that their elected officials are protecting their tax dollars. They cannot stand the idea that we would bail out people who made bad decisions with no consequences. At home, when people lose a lot of money for their business, they lose their jobs and they certainly do not receive bonuses.

These Main Street values must be part of the effort. I support making taxpayer protection equal in importance to stabilizing the financial system, independent oversight of Treasury actions under the program, taxpayer equity in participating firms, and limits on executive pay and "golden parachutes" for executives that made taxpayer funded action necessary.

I commend and thank you for your leadership in this time of crisis. I look forward to working with you both on this emergency action and in the future on fundamental reform of our financial system.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Bond

cc: Thomas M. Hoenig, President, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
James B. Bullard, President, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis