

March 22, 2012

Senator Daniel Inouye
722 Hart Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Inouye,

Thank you for the information your office and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum staff provided in a recent discussion with my staff regarding S.1537, which would authorize \$20 million annually for the National September 11th Memorial and Museum.

Although the meeting was educational, some of the information provided did not fully answer my questions regarding the need for this legislation, including the projected annual funding need of \$20 million. Further, I was surprised to learn my staff was handed a new version of the legislation, which actually increased the bill's cost. This did not represent an effort of negotiating in good faith, and certainly does not keep with the spirit of our discussions, which are aimed at lowering and paying for the cost of the legislation.

As with any provision of federal funding, full transparency and financial disclosure are needed to ensure taxpayers are being asked to make a wise and sound investment, now and in the future.

The budgetary projections provided by the Foundation, while depicting a broad overview demonstrating an annual funding gap of nearly \$21 million, do not provide a full financial detailing of planned expenses and revenue sources. Without this information, it is difficult to assess the need or provide complete justification for \$20 million in annual federal funding provided in this legislation.

In light of these concerns, I request the following please be provided:

- A standard detailed budget for the Memorial and Museum, outlining specifically all sources of revenue and in kind contributions, as well as planned expenses, including but not limited to labor costs, security costs, advertising costs, such as iPhone advertising expenditures, and planned activities covered under each of the budget items such as museum collections, exhibitions, and education activities;
- A detailed explanation of the planned security needs and costs, including private contract fees and the services provided, labor costs, equipment costs, and the specific support current and to be provided by the NYPD and the Port Authority;

- All support, including direct financial support and in-kind contributions current being or projected to be provided by the Port Authority, New York City, and the state of New York (please delineate state funds and federal formula funding passed through the state); and
- A full explanation, with accompanying budgetary justifications, of the need and planned use for the additional \$10 million provided in the new legislative text.

In addition, in the spirit of the private public partnership between the American taxpayers and the 9/11 Memorial and Museum staff, I believe a commitment to publishing a public quarterly budget report documenting the Foundation's revenues and expenditures, would help ensure the integrity of the museum's finances will remain aligned with that of the Foundation's important mission.

As previously discussed, I will work to find resolution to this matter, and look forward to obtaining this information and working with the sponsoring legislators on ideas for how to pay for the cost of this legislation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Coburn". The signature is stylized and written over a horizontal line.

Tom A. Coburn, M.D.
United States Senate

Cc: Senator Charles Schumer
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Jay Weinkam, 9/11 Memorial