January 7, 2014

Dear Colleague:

The Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act ("FGDA") (5 U.S.C. 7342) requires the Select Committee on Ethics to compile a list of certain tangible gifts or gifts of travel that Senate Members, officers, and employees, or their spouse or dependent, have accepted from a foreign government or a multinational organization during the preceding calendar year. The Committee sends this list to the Secretary of State for publication in the Federal Register by January 31st of each year. If you, an officer or employee whom you supervise, or the spouse or dependent of such individual, accepted any tangible gifts or gifts of travel (or expenses of travel) from a foreign government during calendar year 2013 that were not reported, each individual recipient must complete the attached form and return it to the Ethics Committee by January 24, 2014.

Tangible gifts valued at more than $100 from a foreign government may only be accepted on behalf of the United States Government and must be deposited with the Secretary of the Senate within 60 days of accepting the gift. The FGDA does not permit the acceptance of gifts of travel (or expenses of travel), such as transportation, food, lodging, and entertainment, with a value of more than $100 unless the travel takes place entirely outside of the United States (or is approved by the U.S. Department of State under section 108A of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961). Reports concerning gifts of travel accepted under the FGDA must be filed with the Ethics Committee within 30 days of accepting the gift of travel.

The attached report form should also be used for reporting tangible gifts or gifts of travel from a foreign government received during calendar year 2014.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Committee at (202) 224-2981 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barbara Boxer
Chairman

Johnny Isakson
Vice Chairman

Enclosure: Foreign Gifts Report Form