the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (upon a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members of such Board), the Secretary of the Treasury (in consultation with the President) determines that additional amounts above the $100,000,000,000 amount specified in paragraph (1) are necessary, such amount shall be increased to the amount so determined to be necessary, not to exceed $500,000,000,000.

''(B) REPORT REQUIRED.—If the borrowing authority of the Corporation is increased above $100,000,000,000 pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Corporation shall promptly submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives describing the reasons and need for the additional borrowing authority and its intended uses.''.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION,
Washington, DC, March 5, 2009.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER J. DODD,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

1DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to express my support for the Depositor Protection Act of 2009, legislation to increase the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's borrowing authority with the Treasury Department if losses from failed financial institutions exceed the industry funded resources of the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF).

As you know, the FDIC's borrowing authority was set in 1991 at $30 billion and has not been raised since that date. Assets in the banking industry have tripled since 1991, from $4.5 trillion to $13.6 trillion. As I indicated in my previous letter of January 26, 2009, the FDIC believes it is prudent to adjust the statutory line of credit proportionately to leave no doubt that the FDIC can immediately access the necessary resources to resolve failing banks and provide timely protection to insured depositors.

The legislation would include important additional authority for the FDIC and would rationalize the FDIC's current borrowing authority. Under current law, the FDIC has the authority to borrow up to $30 billion from Treasury to cover losses incurred in insuring deposits up to $100,000. In addition, when Congress temporarily increased deposit insurance coverage to $250,000, it temporarily lifted all limits on the FDIC's borrowing authority to implement the new deposit insurance obligation.

The bill would permanently increase the FDIC's authority to borrow from Treasury from $30 billion to $100 billion. In addition the bill also would temporarily authorize an increase in that borrowing authority above $100 billion (but not to exceed $500 billion) based on a process that would require the concurrence of the FDIC, the Federal Reserve Board, and the Treasury Department, in consultation with the President.

Because the existing borrowing authority for losses from bank failures provides a thin margin of error, it was necessary for the FDIC recently to impose increased assessments on the banking industry. These assessments will have a significant impact on insured financial institutions, particularly during a financial crisis and recession when banks must be a critical source of credit to the economy.

The size of the special assessment reflected the FDIC's responsibility to maintain adequate resources to cover unforeseen losses. Increased borrowing authority, however, would give the FDIC flexibility to reduce the size of the recent special assessment, while still maintaining assessments at a level that supports the DIF with industry funding. While the industry would still pay assessments to the DIF to cover projected losses and rebuild the Fund over time, a lower special assessment would mitigate the impact on banks at a time when they need to serve their communities and revitalize the economy.

In conclusion, the Depositor Protection Act would leave no doubt that the FDIC will have the resources necessary to address future contingencies and seamlessly fulfill the government's commitment to protect insured depositors against loss. I strongly support this legislation and look forward to working with you to enact it into law.

Sincerely,

SHEILA C. BAIR,
Chairman.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM,
Washington, DC, February 2, 2009.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER J. DODD,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to join the Secretary of the Treasury in expressing my agreement that the authority of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to borrow from the Treasury Department should be increased to $100 billion from its current level of $30 billion. While the FDIC has substantial resources in the Deposit Insurance Fund, the line of credit with the Treasury Department provides an important back-stop to the fund and has not been adjusted since 1991. An increase in the line of credit is a reasonable and prudent step to ensure that the FDIC can effectively meet potential future obligations during periods such as the difficult and uncertain economic climate that we are currently experiencing.

I also support legislation that would allow the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System if Congress believes that to be appropriate, to increase the FDIC's line of credit with the Treasury in exigent circumstances. This mechanism would allow the FDIC to respond expeditiously to emergency situations that may involve substantial risk to the financial system.

The Federal Reserve would be happy to work with your staff on this matter, as well as on the other amendments under consideration that would allow the FDIC more flexibility in the timing and scope of assessments that it charges to recover costs to the Deposit Insurance Fund in the event that the systemic risk exception in the Federal Deposit Insurance Act has been invoked.

Sincerely,

BEN S. BERNANKE,
Chairman.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY,
Washington, DC, February 2, 2009.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER J. DODD,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to express my support for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's (FDIC) current request to increase its permanent statutory borrowing authority under its line of credit with the Treasury Department from $30 billion to $100 billion. Since the last increase in that authority in 1991, the banking industry's assets have tripled. More importantly, the financial and credit markets continue to be under acute stress, and the level of thrift and bank failures has been rising. Although the FDIC's Deposit Insurance Fund remains substantial at $35 billion, and the FDIC has never needed to tap the existing line of credit with the Treasury Department in the past, the proposed increase in the limit is a reasonable and prudent step to ensure that the FDIC can effectively meet any potential future. obligations.

The Treasury Department also supports the FDIC's request to make future adjustments to the line of credit based on exigent circumstances, but recommends that such future adjustments require the concurrence of both the Secretary of the Treasury and the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. This future adjustment mechanism would provide an additional layer of protection for insured depositors and enhance the confidence of financial markets during this turbulent period.

The Treasury Department also supports the FDIC having authority to determine the time period for recovering any loss to the insurance fund resulting from actions taken after a systemic risk determination by the Secretary of the Treasury.

I hope that you find our views useful in the Committee's consideration of the FDIC's request. Thank you for the opportunity to share these views.

Sincerely,

TIMOTHY F. GEITHNER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 65—HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT MCCOY IN SPARTA, WISCONSIN

Mr. KOHL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 65

Whereas 2009 is the 100th anniversary of the Army operating a military installation in Sparta, Wisconsin;

Whereas the Army began training in Monroe County, Wisconsin on the 4,000-acre family farm of Robert Bruce McCoy in September 1905;

Whereas the Army purchased the McCoy farm and established the Sparta Maneuver Tract on June 8, 1909;

Whereas the Sparta Maneuver Tract was officially designated Camp McCoy on November 19, 1926, in honor of Major General Robert Bruce McCoy;

Whereas Camp McCoy served as one of the largest and most modern artillery camps in the Nation, training field artillery units for deployment in World War I;

Whereas Camp McCoy served as a supply base for the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression, supplying uniforms, lodging, and food to thousands of young men;

Whereas Camp McCoy was modernized and expanded to help prepare military units for deployment in World War II, resulting in the construction of 1,500 buildings capable of training and supporting 35,000 troops;

Whereas Camp McCoy was temporarily an internment camp during the Japanese American internment, a period of grave injustice to individuals of Japanese ancestry;

Whereas Camp McCoy served as a prisoner of war camp for 4 years, housing Japanese, German, and Korean prisoners of war;

Whereas Camp McCoy served as a major training center for the Fifth Army preparing for the Korean War;

Whereas Camp McCoy was officially renamed Fort McCoy on September 30, 1974, recognizing Fort McCoy's status as a year-round Army training facility;

Whereas Fort McCoy was designated as a Resettlement Center for Cuban refugees, housing approximately 15,000 Cubans in 1980;

Whereas Fort McCoy served as a major mobilization site during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, preparing more than 18,000 soldiers for deployment; and

Whereas Fort McCoy continues to support our Nation's defense, training more than 100,000 soldiers per year and preparing 85,000 military personnel from 49 States and 2 territories for mobilization since September 11, 2001: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors Fort McCoy in Sparta, Wisconsin, on its 100th anniversary and commends the men and women who have worked and trained at the fort.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I honor the 100 year legacy of Fort McCoy and the men and women who have worked and trained at the fort.

On June 8th, 1909, the United States Army began training on a tract of land that would eventually become Fort McCoy. Named for Major General Robert McCoy, the fort has embodied his commitment to military service for 100 years. Providing training to more than 100,000 reserve and active duty soldiers per year, Fort McCoy is the only facility focused on supporting total force training. As a pioneer for field artillery and maneuver training, the fort has developed into one of the largest and most modern artillery camps in the nation. Fort McCoy has supported and trained our troops through every major military action of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and has truly remained an unwavering presence for the United States Armed Services.

I am proud to recognize the 100 year anniversary of Fort McCoy and the enduring commitment that its troops have given to the United States of America.

SENATE RESOLUTION 66—DESIGNATING 2009 AS THE ''YEAR OF THE NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY''

Mr. BOND submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 66

Whereas the Secretary of the Army has designated 2009 as the Year of the United States Army Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) to honor more than 200 years of service by the noncommissioned officers of the Army to the Army and the American people;

Whereas the modern noncommissioned officer of the Army operates autonomously, and always with confidence and competence;

Whereas the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the Army has distinguished itself as the most accomplished group of military professionals in the world, with noncommissioned officers of the Army leading the way in education, training, and discipline, empowered and trusted like no other noncommissioned officers, and serving as role models to the most advanced armies in the world; and

Whereas the noncommissioned officers of the Army share their strength of character and values with every soldier, officer, and civilian they support across the regular and reserve components of the Army, and take the lead and are the keepers of Army standards: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates 2009 as the ''Year of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United States Army''; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to recognize the ''Year of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps of the United States Army'' with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 67—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT PROVIDING BREAKFAST IN SCHOOLS THROUGH THE NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM HAS A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE LIVES AND CLASSROOM PERFORMANCE OF LOW-INCOME CHILDREN

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BURRIS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. DODD) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 67

Whereas participants in the school breakfast program established by section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) include public, private, elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as schools in rural, suburban, and urban areas;

Whereas access to nutrition programs such as the school lunch program, established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) and the national school breakfast program helps to create a stronger learning environment for children and improves children's concentration in the classroom;

Whereas missing breakfast and the resulting hunger has been shown to harm the ability of children to learn and to hinder academic performance;

Whereas students who eat a complete breakfast have been shown to make fewer mistakes and to work faster in math exercises than those who eat a partial breakfast;

Whereas implementing or improving classroom breakfast programs has been shown to increase breakfast consumption among eligible students dramatically, doubling, and in some cases, tripling numbers of participants in school breakfast programs, as evidenced by research in Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin;

Whereas providing breakfast in the classroom has been shown in several instances to improve attentiveness and academic performance, while reducing absences, tardiness, and disciplinary referrals;

Whereas studies suggest that eating breakfast closer to the time students arrive in the classroom and take tests improves the students' performance on standardized tests;

Whereas studies show that students who skip breakfast are more likely to have difficulty distinguishing among similar images, show increased errors, and have slower memory recall;

Whereas children who live in families that experience hunger are likely to have lower math scores, receive more special education services, and face an increased likelihood of repeating a grade;

Whereas making breakfast widely available in different venues or in a combination of venues, such as by providing breakfast in the classroom, in the hallways outside classrooms, or to students as they exit their school buses, has been shown to lessen the stigma of receiving free or reduced-price school breakfasts, which stigma sometimes prevents eligible students from obtaining traditional breakfast in the cafeteria;

Whereas in fiscal year 2008, 8,520,000 students in the United States consumed free or reduced-price school breakfasts provided under the national school breakfast program;

Whereas less than half of the low-income students who participate in the national school lunch program also participate in the national school breakfast program;

Whereas at least 16,000 schools that participate in the national school lunch program do not participate in the national school breakfast program;

Whereas in fiscal year 2008, 60 percent of school lunches served, and 80 percent of school breakfasts served, were served to students who qualified for free or reduced-priced meals;

Whereas the current economic situation, including the increase of nearly 3 percent in the national unemployment rate in 2008, is causing more families to struggle to feed their children and to turn to schools for assistance;

Whereas studies suggest that children who eat breakfast take in more nutrients, such as calcium, fiber, protein, and vitamins A, E, D, and B-6;

Whereas studies show that children who participate in school breakfast programs eat more fruits, drink more milk, and consume less saturated fat than those who do not eat breakfast;

Whereas children who do not eat breakfast, either in school or at home, are more likely to be overweight than children who eat a healthful breakfast on a daily basis; and

Whereas March 2 through March 6, 2009 is National School Breakfast Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of the school breakfast program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) and the positive impact of the program on the lives of low-income children and families and on children's overall classroom performance;

(2) expresses strong support for States that have successfully implemented school breakfast programs in order to alleviate hunger and improve the test scores and grades of participating students;

(3) encourages all States to strengthen their school breakfast programs, provide incentives for the expansion of school breakfast programs, and promote improvements in the nutritional quality of breakfasts served;

(4) recognizes the need to provide States with resources to improve the availability of adequate and nutritious breakfasts;

(5) recognizes the impact of nonprofit and community organizations that work to increase awareness of, and access to, breakfast programs for low-income children; and

(6) recognizes that National School Breakfast Week helps draw attention to the need for, and success of, the national school breakfast program.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 665. Mr. BUNNING submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1105, making omnibus appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 666. Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him