



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MAINE

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The Honorable Olympia Snowe
U.S. Senate
One Cumberland Place
Bangor, ME 04401

Dear Senator Snowe:

On behalf of the League of Women Voters of Maine, thank you for your letter of January 26, 2010 to Secretary of State Clinton regarding the Fiscal Year 2011 budget and U.S. commitment to international adaptation and climate change.

We agree with you that the most vulnerable countries require immediate assistance to adapt to the effects of climate change. We also agree with your support of the position of the US National Intelligence Council and the United Nations Environment Program about the need to increase adaptation programs to reduce the threats posed to our national security from conflicts and migrations due to resource constraints.

As you know from Patrick Woodcock's meeting with LWVME member Pam Person last fall, the League of Women Voters of the United States is partnering with Oxfam America in the Sisters on the Planet Project to promote greater international climate change adaptation funding. The Sisters on the Planet Project also is bringing greater awareness about the disproportionate effects on women from climate change events due to their primary role as caregivers for children and the elderly as well as suppliers of water and food supplies.

We applaud your long term support for climate change action and again wish to thank you for your many efforts in this regard, both nationally and internationally. In particular, we salute your ground breaking work as co-chair of the International Climate Change Task Force. In reviewing the Task Force Recommendations in "Meeting the Climate Challenge," we especially note Recommendation #9, which reads, "Developed countries [should] honour existing commitments to provide greater financial and technical assistance to help vulnerable countries adapt to climate change..." (pg ix).

The League of Women Voters of Maine is grateful for your long-time support of climate change legislation, and we look forward to working with you to obtain the strongest possible climate change legislation this year.

Sincerely,

Barbara McDade
President