

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 27, 2009

Mr. Frederick Henderson  
President & CEO  
General Motors Corporation  
300 Renaissance Center  
Detroit, MI 48265

Dear Mr. Henderson:

In recent months, as you well know, we have been watching General Motors' restructuring efforts with great interest, and are confident that if the necessary changes are made, GM will emerge as a lean and viable company. Literally millions of jobs are dependent on the reemergence of the U.S. auto sector.

One such change that GM has publicly announced will be necessary for it to return to long-term profitability is the sale of three current GM brands: Saab, Hummer, and Saturn. It is our understanding that a number of suitors have expressed interest in buying the Saturn brand in particular, potentially to turn Saturn into a company that is focused on the development, assembly, and sale of environmentally-efficient cars. There is some concern, however, that GM is not doing what it can to facilitate the sale, and that it may hold onto the brand to eliminate potential competitors in a post-bankruptcy situation, rather than keeping its public commitment to sell the brand. We are writing to urge you to consider any fair offers for Saturn so that the assembly line workers, auto dealers, and others that rely on Saturn can live with a little less uncertainty. We believe in the value of private sector solutions and free market competitive processes where available.

Saturn dealers play a significant role in the economies of New York and Tennessee. In New York, there are 18 Saturn dealerships, in both big cities and small towns. In Tennessee, there are nine dealerships. These 27 dealers employ more than 800 people and accounted for more than \$300 million in sales in 2007 – not including the economic impact generated from service and other dealer-related activities such as after-market additions. In addition, auto dealers play a significant role in their local economies beyond just car sales and service.

While we understand that GM has initiated a process to close many dealerships throughout the country, it seems to us that many of the Saturn dealerships can be saved if GM agrees to sell the brand at a fair price. We view the potential sale of the Saturn brand as an opportunity to keep a stable dealer network in place and lessen the impact of the ongoing market restructuring. Additionally, it could create a new model for the auto industry that empowers customers and dealers to bring to market the next generation of environmentally-friendly cars that help reduce America's dependence on foreign oil.

Given our shared commitment to the long-term viability in the U.S. auto industry, we

appreciate your consideration of this request and we respectfully ask that you keep us fully abreast of the progress of the Saturn sale.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer



Bob Corker

Cc: Mr. Steven Rattner, President's Auto Task Force  
Mr. Ron Bloom, President's Auto Task Force