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February 3, 2010

Senator Charles Schumer
130 S. Elmwood Ave, Room 660
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Senator Schumer:

I write to urge you to reject the Financial Crisis Responsibility Fee (FCRF) recently proposed by President Obama. I believe this fee will harm the banking industry's ability to provide credit market services, which will in turn impair financial recovery. As banking is a large private sector employer in Buffalo, I am particularly concerned about the potential negative impact of the FCRF.

As you know, the FCRF would impose a .15 percent tax on the covered liabilities of banks and other financial institutions. This punitive tax would negatively impact the ability to leverage capital for private-sector business, which will in turn damage employment and investment conditions. A stronger focus on collecting outstanding Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) funds appears to be a more reasonable option. As New York State struggles with the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, wrestling with a multi-billion dollar state deficit that has ballooned largely because of the state's position as the center of the banking industry, it is imperative that the financial sector be given every opportunity to rebound. The FCRF is no such opportunity for growth.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

SAM HOYT
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY

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