

# The Law of the Sea

Dear Majority Leader Frist:

**On behalf of millions of Americans, we urge you to bring the Foreign Relations Committee's unanimous resolution of ratification for the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to the floor of the U.S. Senate for a vote.**

Ratification of this treaty is good for our national security, good for our business, and good for our environment.

It is not often that an issue, particularly a treaty, enjoys such a broad range of support from such a wide range of individuals and organizations. We represent U.S. business, environmental organizations, citizens' groups and military interests. The diversity of support for the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea is a testament to the need for U.S. ratification of this treaty. The Bush Administration supports Senate ratification of this treaty.

This treaty has been before the Senate for 10 years. It will be open for amendment starting in November. There is every reason to act quickly. Please let the Senate vote on UN Convention on the Law of the Sea so that the U.S. can be fully engaged in all upcoming negotiations.

Signed,

**Daniel Magraw**

President  
Center for International Environmental Law

**Joe Cox**

President/CEO  
Chamber of Shipping of America

**Harry C. Blaney, III**

President  
Coalition for American Leadership Abroad

**Fred Krupp**

President  
Environmental Defense

**Joe Volk**

Executive Secretary  
Friends Committee on National Legislation

**Patricia Forkan**

Executive Vice President  
The Humane Society of the United States

**Philip Clapp**

President  
National Environmental Trust

**John Connelly**

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National Fisheries Institute

**Monita W. Fontaine, Esq.**

Vice President, Government Relations  
National Marine Manufacturers Association

**Karen Wayland**

Legislative Director  
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**Roger T. Rufe**

President  
The Ocean Conservancy

**Andrew F. Sharpless**

Chief Executive Officer  
Oceana

**James L. Henry**

President  
Transportation Institute

**William H. Luers**

President  
United Nations Association of the USA

**"I appear before you today with the full support of President Bush, Vice President Cheney, Secretary of State Powell ...joining this treaty is in the best interests of the United States.."**

John Turner, Assistant Secretary of State for Ocean Affairs, comments before Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, March 23, 2004.

**"The Convention is important to our efforts to develop domestic offshore oil and natural gas resources ...The U.S. petroleum industry is concerned that failure by the United States to become a party to the Convention could adversely affect U.S. companies' operations offshore other countries"**

Paul L. Kelly, testimony to Senate Foreign Relations Committee, representing The American Petroleum Institute, The International Association of Drilling Contractors, and The National Ocean Industries Association, October 21, 2003.

\* Partial list of signatures. Treaty supporters represent diverse concerns and perspectives. Signatures do not necessarily indicate support for the views represented in all of the attached quotes.



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