

December 9, 2008

Dear Senator,

<u>Taxpayers for Common Sense strongly supports the McCaskill-Grassley Special Inspector</u> <u>General (IG) for the Troubled Asset Relief Program bill</u>. This legislation will strengthen the existing Special IG position and help ensure that taxpayers get an accurate, timely and full accounting about how the \$700 billion provided under the program is spent.

The common sense bill provides the Special IG with the tools to quickly hire staff, review all aspects of the TARP, and requires Treasury to cooperate and respond to the IG. In addition, the legislation requires that the IG report to Congress, by July 1, 2009, how the financial institutions are spending the TARP funds. This report, along with others conducted by the IG, are required to be made public on the internet.

The TARP legislation (and by extension the creation of the Special Inspector General office) was by necessity drafted quickly. We urge you to support the McCaskill-Grassley Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program bill to give some teeth and strength to this critical oversight position. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me or Steve Ellis at 202-546-8500.

Sincerely,

A. Ry AZL

Ms. Ryan Alexander President