

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 13, 2008

Sam Kim, Executive Director  
Korean Church Coalition for North Korea Freedom  
5661 Beach Blvd. #200  
Buena Park, CA 90621

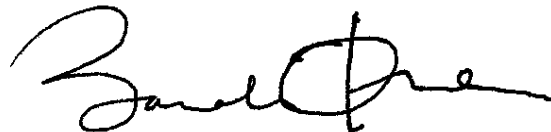
Dear Mr. Kim:

I strongly support your urgent call to address the suffering of North Korean refugees.

From a prison cell, Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. once penned the words, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." The desperation of North Korean refugees is an injustice that must be addressed. North Koreans should not have to flee their country just to enjoy the most basic rights of life, liberty, and conscience. When they do leave, they should not be forcibly returned into persecution; they should have the protection to which asylum seekers and refugees are entitled under international law. These issues should be on the table when we talk to countries in the region, including China.

As we work to ease tensions and improve security on the Korean Peninsula, I will continue to proudly stand with Korean-Americans and with people of good will around the world in calling attention to the plight of North Korean refugees hiding in the shadow of injustice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style.

Barack Obama