THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 23, 2011

Mr. William M. Windsor Post Office Box 681236 Marietta, Georgia 30068

Dear William:

Thank you for writing to share your thoughts. I appreciate hearing from you.

My Administration is committed to reform that ensures Government serves the public interest rather than special interests. The day after my inauguration, I signed my first Presidential Memorandum, "Transparency and Open Government," calling for a more transparent, participatory, and collaborative Government that engages with the American people. That same day, I signed an Executive Order that imposes tougher ethics standards on this Administration than any in history. For too long, lobbyists have wielded undue influence, and this Executive Order helps close the "revolving door" between lobbying firms and Government.

Our efforts have continued since those initial steps. My Administration issued an Open Government Directive instructing every Federal agency to take immediate steps to open their operations to the public. This Directive adds to current resources we have created to increase transparency, including <u>Data.gov</u>, a warehouse of Government information. We are also using easy-to-understand websites like <u>Recovery.gov</u> and <u>it.usaspending.gov</u> to cut down on fraud, waste, and abuse by tracking Government spending. And, for the first time ever, Americans can view White House visitor records online, where tens of thousands of these records are made available every month.

While we have made historic progress, much work remains. The American people deserve to know who is spending money to influence their votes, so special interests do not drown out the voices of ordinary Americans, and I remain committed to stemming the flood of foreign funding into our elections. With the participation of more Americans, I am confident our Government can uphold our Nation's founding principles while meeting the demands of the 21st century.

To learn more about how we are bringing change to Washington, visit: www.WhiteHouse.gov. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,