

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, HOUSING
AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FOREIGN RELATIONS
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

September 11, 2012

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Clinton,

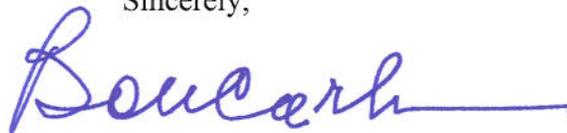
I write to you with concern about recent reports that Egypt is negotiating with Iran for the purchase of oil at the same time Egypt is negotiating with our government for the forgiveness of debt owed to the U.S. taxpayer.

Iran continues to present one of the most critical national security challenges faced by the United States today. The current slate of oil sanctions imposed by the U.S. and our European allies is one of the strongest tools we currently have in use to influence the Iranian regime to give up their nuclear program and improve their human rights record. Any deal negotiated by Egypt with Iran to purchase oil would stand as an affront to our strong efforts to isolate Iran economically.

While I fully support taking every appropriate step to help Egypt create a strong and vibrant economy, including through potential debt relief, I seek your strong assurances that the government of Egypt is not entertaining an oil deal with Iran prior to concluding negotiations on a debt relief package.

I thank you for your personal time and attention to my concerns and await your response.

Sincerely,



BOB CORKER
United States Senator