

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 19, 2004

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush:

In light of reports that Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States, has pledged to you that Saudi Arabia will take action to reduce oil prices in order to strengthen the American economy in time for the November election, I urge you to take immediate action to safeguard the integrity of the American electoral process by deporting Prince Bandar and canceling his diplomatic visa. Saudi Arabia has already demonstrated its failure to fully cooperate in the war on terror and its willingness to burden the American economy with record high gasoline prices for its own financial gain. The possibility of Saudi Arabia manipulating world oil supplies and the American economy in order to meddle in our nation's electoral process is completely unconscionable and any such activities cannot be allowed to take place.

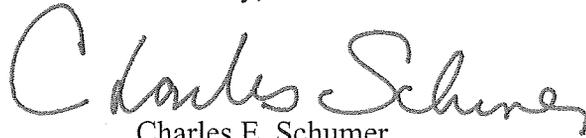
The State Department has the authority to order the deportation of foreign diplomatic personnel in response to criminal activity, subversive activity, or activity that is significantly inconsistent with diplomatic purposes. Prince Bandar's reported attempt to represent Saudi Arabia's plans to directly influence this November's election clearly falls within the scope of these prohibited activities and provides ample justification for the State Department to begin the process of terminating his diplomatic presence in the United States of America. The sanctity of our nation's electoral system lies at the core of America's founding principles and cannot be allowed to be undermined by foreign manipulation.

I am also writing to ask that you use your close ties with the Saudi royal family in order to provide working families with immediate relief from the burden of record-high gasoline prices. Tightness in the oil markets, exacerbated by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) April 1st decision to cut production by 1 million barrels per day, has recently led to the highest crude oil prices in 13 years and record gasoline prices of approximately \$1.80 per gallon throughout the United States. The summer driving months that lie between now and the election are rapidly approaching, and families throughout the United States cannot afford to wait for an "October surprise" that will lower gasoline prices. The health of the American economy is being threatened now by skyrocketing gasoline prices, and must not be held captive to political considerations. Accordingly, I urge you to persuade Saudi Arabia to immediately increase oil production.

Mr. President, our nation cannot allow the government of Saudi Arabia to continue its

attempts to brazenly manipulate our electoral process and exert undue influence over the economy of the United States. I once again urge you to stop Saudi Arabia's efforts by terminating Prince Bandar's diplomatic presence in the United States and by convincing Saudi Arabia to immediately increase world oil supplies. I thank you for your attention to these important matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. Schumer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Charles E. Schumer
United States Senate