



SENATE
STATE OF LOUISIANA

JAY DARDENNE

State Senator
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January 18, 2006

Committees:

Education
Judiciary B
Retirement
Senate & Governmental Affairs
Joint Budget

Ms. Abbey Mullancy Patterson
Business Development Manager
Australian Consulate-General
Australian Trade Commission
Atlanta Financial Center
3353 Peachtree Road, Suite 1140
Atlanta, GA 30326

Dear Ms. Patterson:

Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of meeting Martin Meader, an Australian choral director and film producer, during his brief visit to Louisiana. It is my understanding that Mr. Meader conducts thousand voice choirs in Australia and has the vision of forming such a choir in our state, directing the performance in June, 2006 and producing a feature length documentary about the presentation to assist in the rebuilding of our communities in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Mr. Meader has received a warm reception throughout Louisiana and, in fact, held three successful public rehearsals for the so-called Hurricane Choir in Baton Rouge and New Orleans. He has assembled an outstanding team which has begun networking with religious, political and business leaders and non-profit organizations, including the Volunteers of America, who will assist in the distribution of net profits from documentary sales to the neediest areas of our state.

I am excited and encouraged by this innovative approach to spotlight music, which is one of our natural treasures in Louisiana and to assist in the tremendous rebuilding effort we face.

It is my understanding that there is an effort underway to assist in the Hurricane Choir project and to designate Mr.


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Meader as an Ambassador of Goodwill to Louisiana with full diplomatic privileges. To the extent that this is something that can be arranged through your office, I am pleased to join in any request to assist in this worthwhile endeavor.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours,



Jay Dardenne
State Senator

JD:pl