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October 15, 2007

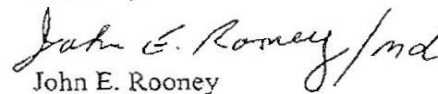
Mrs. Deirdre Imus, President
The Deirdre Imus Environmental Center for Pediatric Oncology
Hackensack University Medical Center
Room 240 - 30 Prospect Avenue
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

Dear Mrs. Imus:

Thank you for your letter dated October 12, 2007. I have received numerous reports from constituents over the last several years regarding their concerns with the tragedy of autism. The growing incidents of autism has reached epidemic proportions and it is becoming more and more clear that mercury poisoning and/or other environmental factors probably play significant roles in this epidemic.

I am thrilled that you have taken the lead regarding this issue and have formed a task force to investigate ways that we can combat this growing problem. Unfortunately, I am now in San Diego for business reasons and cannot attend your press conference and kick-off of the task force. Rest assured that I am fully in support of your endeavors and will do anything I can upon my return from San Diego on Thursday and in the future to personally assist your great work. I truly wish I could be present with you and look forward to assisting you in the future.

Sincerely,


John E. Rooney
Assemblyman

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