

June 15, 2004

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
The Speaker
H-232, The Capitol

The Honorable Tom DeLay
House Majority Leader
H-107, The Capitol

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol

The Honorable Roy Blunt
House Majority Whip
H-329, The Capitol

The Honorable Steny H. Hoyer
House Minority Whip
H-306, The Capitol

The Honorable William M. Thomas
Chairman, Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
Ranking Member, Ways and Means
1106 Longworth House Office Building

On behalf of Mars Incorporated and its affiliated entities, we commend the recent introduction of the "American Jobs Creation Act of 2004" (H.R. 4520) and urge swift enactment of this important legislation. The reforms to the U.S. tax law system contained in the American Jobs Creation Act will level the international playing field and protect the ability of U.S. based multinationals to remain competitive abroad, thus strengthening our economy at home.

Mars, Incorporated is a family-owned company headquartered in McLean, Virginia and is one of the world's largest manufacturers of confectionery and snackfood products. Mars has 15 domestic manufacturing facilities and employs over 9,000 people in 16 states (Arkansas,

California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas).

Domestic and international sales of US-made Mars products exceed \$14 billion annually. The company's brands include M&M's®, Snickers®, Mars®, Milky Way®, Twix®, Three Musketeers®, Skittles®, and Starburst®. We are also one of the world's leading producers of foods for dogs and cats which carry the internationally renowned brands of Pedigree®, Whiskas®, Sheba®, Frolic®, Chappi®, Waltham® and Royal Canin®. Also included among the Mars group of companies and products are Uncle Ben's® Rice, Dove® ice cream, and Mars Electronics International.

We thank you for your leadership in advancing these critical reforms to the U.S. international tax law system and offer our continuing support and assistance.

Sincerely,

John Claringbould

John Claringbould AM
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary