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June 8, 2004

The Honorable William M. Thomas
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of Merrill Lynch, I am writing in support of H.R. 4520, the American Jobs Creation Act.

We commend you for your leadership in shaping this important legislation, which is urgently needed to end billions of dollars of sanctions on American goods and services, and to enact important domestic and international tax reforms.

H.R. 4520 will strengthen U.S. manufacturers and make our companies more competitive in the global economy by freeing up capital for reinvestment and job creation here at home. The bill includes important international tax reforms which will help U.S. companies in worldwide markets and create more jobs in the United States.

We stand ready to work with you and your Committee to expeditiously move this legislation through the House and to final enactment.

Sincerely,

cc: The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
The Honorable Tom DeLay
The Honorable Roy Blunt