DAN BURTON, INDIANA,
CHAIRMAN

BENJAMIN A GILMAN NEW YORK
CONSTANCE A MORELLA, MARYLAND
CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, CONNECTICUT
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN FLORIDA
JOHN M McHUGH NEW YORK
STEPHEN HORN CALIFORNIA
JOHN L MICA FLORIDA
THOMAS M DAVIS III VIRGINIA
DAVID M McINTOSH, INDIANA
MARK E SOUDER, INDIANA
JOE SCARBOROUGH FLORIDA
STEVEN C LaTOURETTE OHIO
MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD SOUTH CAROLINA
BOB BARR GEORGIA
DAN MILLER FLORIDA
ASA HUTCHINSON, ARKANSAS
LEE TERRY NEBRASKA
JUDY BIGGERT ILLINOIS
GREG WALDEN OREGON
DOUG OSE CALIFORNIA
PAUL RYAN, WISCONSIN
HELEN CHENOWETH-HAGE IDAHO
DAVID VITTER LOUISIANA

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA,
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TOM LANTOS, CALIFORNIA
ROBERT E WISE, Jr., WEST VIRGINIA
MAJOR R OWENS, NEW YORK
EDOLPHUS TOWNS, NEW YORK
PAUL E KANJORSKI, PENNSYLVANIA
PATSY T MINK, HAWAII
CAROLYN B MALONEY, NEW YORK
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON,
    DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CHAKA FATTAH, PENNSYLVANIA,
ELIJAH E CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
DENNIS J KUCINICH, OHIO
ROD R BLAGOJEVICH, ILLINOIS
DANNY K DAVIS, ILLINOIS
JOHN F TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
JIM TURNER, TEXAS
THOMAS H ALLEN, MAINE
HAROLD E FORD, Jr., TENNESSEE
JANICE D SCHAKOWSKY, ILLINOIS

BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT,
INDEPENDENT

February 3, 2000

Private file

Mr. Arthur Levitt
Chairman
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549

Dear Chairman Levitt:

Like you, I am keenly interested in the impact of new technologies on the financial markets and intrigued by the challenges the markets face as the new century begins. I commend you and the Commission for taking a serious approach to examining these changes, particulary the growth of on-line trading.

I am writing regarding a recent article in the _Wall Street Journal_ ("Will the NYSE Get Bowled Over? Firms Debate Market's Future," 1/19/2000). The article described a closed-door meeting that you held in New York with a dozen senior officials from some large brokerage firms and mutual funds. It is my understanding that this latest meeting follows a series of non-public meetings you held last year with a group of executives from large investment firms. I am interested in knowing whether the Commission considered important issues about the future of our markets in the non-public meetings, or if they influenced the Commission's actions in any way. As the Chairman of the House Committee that has jurisdiction over the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), I respectfully ask that you send me complete and thorough responses to the following questions.

1) How many of these non-public meetings have been held? Has the Commission, or yourself as Chairman, taken any action as a result of these deliberations? Were minutes of these meetings prepared and retained? If so, please send me copies.

2) Why were these meetings held in a non-public context? Who determined whom the Commission would invite to participate in these meetings? Please provide me with a list of those who participated in the meetings.
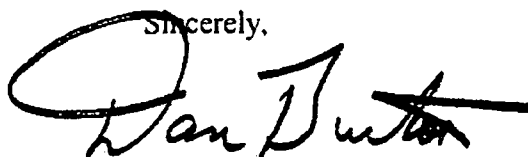
3)   Were these meetings subject to the requirements of FACA? Were these meetings held in compliance with FACA's requirements?

4)   Are any future meetings planned? If so, will they be open to the public and subject to public notice?

In the spirit of FACA, and in the interest of gathering as much information as possible, I ask that you notify me about any future non-public meetings the Commission is planning to have with market or industry representatives.

I look forward to hearing from you soon, and if you need any additional information or have any further questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Dan Burton
Chairman