



May 8, 2007

Dear Taoiseach Ahern and Prime Minister Blair:

For many years, the American people have watched events in Northern Ireland closely, but never with greater optimism for the future than today. Thanks to the courage of its leaders, and the vision and imagination that both of you have shown, Northern Ireland is now set firmly on a course of peace and democracy. We believe this course will allow the potential of all its citizens to be realized and the pain of previous divisions to be healed.



America is proud to have played a vital role in the peace process as a trusted friend of all Northern Ireland's people. As mayors of cities that owe so much to Ireland and the United Kingdom, we are particularly pleased to see Northern Ireland turn this corner and eager to continue to support Northern Ireland's success. This includes helping the Northern Irish economy grow and encouraging American companies to invest there.



We salute all those who have made today's important progress possible and send our best wishes and hopes to Northern Ireland's new Government for the coming months.

Cheers – and sláinte,



Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York

Richard M. Daley
Mayor of Chicago



Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

Gavin Newsom
Mayor of San Francisco



John Hickenlooper
Mayor of Denver

Byron Brown
Mayor of Buffalo