

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 24, 2017

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE

BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Honorable Rex W. Tillerson
Secretary of State
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Tillerson,

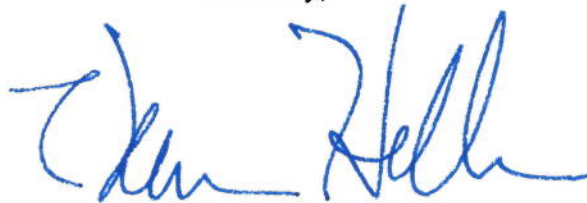
I write to respectfully inquire about communications between the U.S. State Department and Latin American governments to ensure that businesses based in the U.S. and operating in Latin American countries are treated fairly and are able to operate within these economies without fear of political reprisal.

A number of issues have been brought to my attention regarding companies who are concerned about judicial rulings that they believe are politically motivated and are negatively impacting their businesses. One example is a company headquartered in Nevada whose mine in Guatemala has been shut down by court order even after receiving all appropriate permitting from the government. While the company has followed all the rules, they are suffering as are the people of the community supported by mining jobs and the economic boost provided by mining operations.

Given Vice President Pence's recent trip to the region and the United States' friendly relationship with many Latin American countries, I respectfully ask for an update on what is being done to ensure that a healthy relationship between the U.S. business community and Latin American countries continues.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



DEAN HELLER
U.S. Senate