

GINNY BROWN-WAITE
5TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
January 21, 2009

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Senator Bill Nelson
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bill:

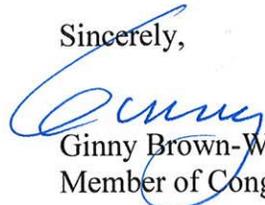
Since you are one of the Senators who will be voting on the nomination of Timothy Geithner, President Obama's choice for Treasury Secretary, I felt it important to express my deep concerns to you about his selection and qualifications for such an important position. To be up front, were I a United States Senator I do not see any circumstances where I could support his nomination for Treasury Secretary.

Mr. Geithner's recent background as President and CEO of the Second District Federal Reserve Bank in New York should be more than enough to make you vote no on his nomination. Instead of the promised change that President Barack Obama and the American people want to see in the financial markets, Mr. Geithner's nomination is just a continuation of the same failed Bush Administration policies. In fact, it was Mr. Geithner who played a leading role in planning and executing the failed bailouts of the financial industry that sent shockwaves throughout Florida and the nation.

Furthermore, Mr. Geithner has been nominated for arguably the most important policy position in the new Administration. Qualified candidates should have a background and temperament that is above reproach. Instead, Mr. Geithner appears to have a healthy disregard for the nation's tax laws. If one of my constituents or I broke the law by avoiding tax payments, we would be facing severe penalties and possibly jail time. But in this instance he is being rewarded with a Cabinet nomination. Federal officials should be held to the highest standards possible, not allowed to skirt the laws of an agency that he desires to one day oversee as Secretary.

In closing, I hope that you will listen to your Florida constituents who are angered by Mr. Geithner's actions and vote against his nomination. To do otherwise would be to go against the interests of millions of Floridians who want to see a healthy measure of accountability returned to American government.

Sincerely,


Ginny Brown-Waite
Member of Congress

GBW:CK