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March 28, 2006

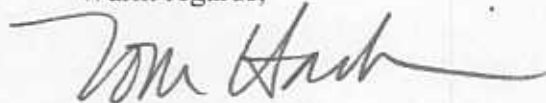
Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for being in the vanguard of the grassroots army that swept to victory on March 16. This was the broadest, most effective Labor-HHS push I have ever witnessed, from a coalition that was organized, mobilized, and energized in a way that was beautiful to behold.

Thanks to the hundreds of thousands of phone calls and emails that flooded every Senate office, we created a tsunami that just could not be stopped. In the process, we did more than pass the Specter-Harkin amendment, as important as that was. By putting together an overwhelming, bipartisan majority vote for this amendment, we sent an unmistakable message to the White House and to Republicans in the House that this is a new day. The warped priorities of the last five years – tax cuts for the rich, program cuts for working Americans – will no longer be tolerated.

I'm reminded of Winston Churchill's wonderful words to the British people after victory in World War II. He said, "The nation had the lion's heart. I had the luck to give the roar!" My friends, Arlen Specter and I had the luck to give the roar. But it was *you* – and your relentless advocacy – that inspired us. I can't thank you enough. Now let's keep up the momentum as action moves to the House.

Warm regards,



Tom Harkin
United States Senator