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January 21, 2009

Dear Friends,

Whether we watched from our living rooms or gathered together in the nation's capital yesterday, we were united - Ohioans, Americans - in witnessing a major milestone in our country's history. Twenty-four hours ago, President Barack Obama took the oath of office and became America's 44th president - and the first African American to hold the office. For 105-year old Ella Mae Johnson, a descendant of slaves who traveled from Cleveland to Washington to see this pivotal event, or people who stopped at schools and at work to watch, or the mother watching at home with her children - the day was the promise of a brighter future.

The Inauguration was about hope, change, and commitment -- the commitment to pragmatism over partisanship, inclusiveness over prejudice, and broad-scale economic advancement over policies that erode our middle class and perpetuate poverty.

President Barack Obama and his administration have already laid the groundwork for a major initiative to help put our economy back on track. In the coming weeks the Obama Administration and Congress will work out details for a job-creating economic stimulus package. We will begin crafting a plan for affordable health care, so that no Ohioan is forced to go without needed health care - or go bankrupt paying for it. And we will work to revitalize U.S. manufacturing, in part by jumpstarting the development and production of affordable alternative energy.

There is a lot of work to do - and the tough times are not yet over. Americans working together - with visionary leadership in the White House - can and will turn this economy around.

In my first two years as your United States Senator, I traveled to all 88 of Ohio's counties holding 126 community roundtables. I heard from farmers in Leipsic, teachers in Cincinnati, and green energy experts in Columbus. I met with community leaders in Jackson, small business owners in Youngstown, and health care professionals in Cleveland. I want to thank all of you who attended the roundtables and who

What We Can Do

As your United States Senator, my top priority is ensuring the best constituent services possible. My office is able to help you with concerns and questions you have about the federal government. We can also help you navigate federal programs and interact with federal agencies.
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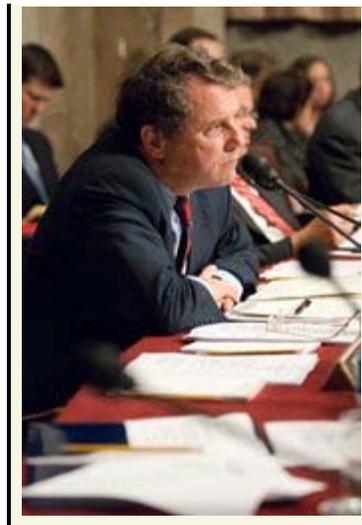
I am proud to serve as your United States Senator. To better serve you, I have created a website that is as much a "virtual office" as it is a source for information about your government.
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wrote or called me with your ideas. Because of you and your call to action on behalf of Ohio, I was able to work in Congress on issues that I know are a priority for you. Representing you in the Senate is a privilege and a responsibility I do not take lightly.

I look forward to working with the Obama Administration and to continuing my work with you as we rebuild our state and secure our economy. May God bless you and your family, and may God bless America.



Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown



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