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December 10, 2007

Roger C. Adams, Esquire
Pardon Attorney
1425 New York Avenue
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Adams:

I am writing in support of the Pardon Application of Frank E. Vennes, Jr. Specifically, I am asking that his application be given full and complete consideration and that a pardon be considered. As a U.S. Representative, I am confident of Mr. Vennes' successful rehabilitation and that a pardon will be good for the neediest of society.

Granting a pardon to Mr. Vennes should be considered because pardons were intended to restore people to society like Mr. Vennes; people who have demonstrated true reformation and for whom mercy is due because the legal system cannot deliver a morally acceptable result. Mr. Vennes' application shows he is a just recipient of a pardon.

Chiefly, however, granting a pardon to Mr. Vennes is good for society. Mr. Vennes is truly a unique man in that he is not asking for a pardon that he may achieve personal success. By the grace of God, this has been done. Mr. Vennes is seeking a pardon so that he may be further used to help others. As I know from personal experience, Mr. Vennes has used his business position and success to fund hundreds of non-profit organizations dedicated to helping the neediest in our society. The Fidelis Foundation, backed by Mr. Vennes, has directed over $10,700,000 in total gifts in the last three years, and the Fidelis Foundation has ranked #6, #9 and #7 as the largest grant making foundation in Minnesota over the past three years.

So why does Mr. Vennes need a pardon if he is so successful? So he can help more people than he does. Despite his success, Mr. Vennes still encounters the barriers of his past and especially in the area of finance loan documents. This hinders his ability to expand his business which places limits on his support to the neediest in society. He could do more and he wants to do more for others. A pardon would release the weights of the past that serve no purpose, as Mr. Vennes has stated his desire to help so many more.

Knowing that pardons have been decreasingly granted, I am asking that courage be mustered to do justice for Mr. Vennes.

Thank you for your consideration and I remain available to any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Representative Michele Bachmann