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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4603**

**COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

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**COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET**

November 20, 2009

Governor Tim Kaine  
Office of the Governor  
Patrick Henry Building, 3rd Floor  
1111 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Governor Kaine:

I have reviewed the petition for clemency that has been put before you on behalf of Joe Giarratano. I believe the information in the petition raises serious questions about Mr. Giarratano's guilt of the crimes of which he was charged. The petition also raises serious questions about the complicity of the Commonwealth in depriving Mr. Giarratano and the Commonwealth of the ability to clear up substantial questions regarding his conviction, as well as the apparent policy of the Parole Board to deny parole to anyone who does not admit guilt. Moreover, the life that Mr. Giarratano has led during more than 30 years in prison, including his mental condition and character, his conduct, the work he has done while incarcerated, his education and development would likely qualify as a basis for release under the Virginia parole board criteria. Accordingly, I urge you to give the combination of these compelling factors full consideration as you decide Mr. Giarratano's petition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress