

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 15, 2008

Dear President Adamkus and Prime Minister Kirkilas;

Many Americans and many Members of Congress have long, deep ties to Lithuania. Our two countries maintained a friendship throughout the difficult experiences of Lithuania during the twentieth century. Now, in the twenty-first century, we have strengthened this friendship with our alliance in NATO, which is based on shared values of democracy, freedom, and respect for human rights.

The Baltic Caucus, a bipartisan group of sixty-three members of the House of Representatives, is a strong example of the importance of the friendship and alliance of Lithuania and the United States. Our alliance based on values means we have a shared commitment to each other's concerns. Members of the Baltic Caucus are among the best friends of Lithuania in the United States.

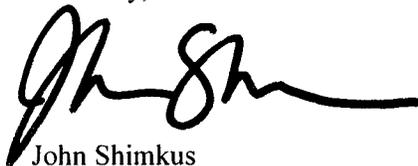
Members of the Baltic Caucus, along with many of our colleagues in the House of Representatives, became very disappointed when the controversial construction at or within the borders of a historic cemetery in the Šnipiškės neighborhood of Vilnius and the lack of protection for the entire cemetery site was brought to our attention. Respect for religion is one of the many important values that our two countries share.

This particular cemetery was defiled by the Soviet occupiers and the Tsarist occupiers prior to that. The Lithuanian government's obligation to preserve this important cultural heritage site is only strengthened by the fact that occupying forces defaced it. We believe that it is the job of the Lithuanian people to preserve and protect this cemetery and to attempt to rectify what the occupiers have done to this historic and holy site.

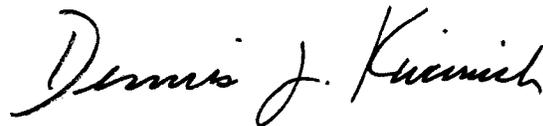
We were gratified by the government of Lithuania's decision to order the cessation of construction work until the exact boundaries of the cemetery could be determined. We regret that this order was not implemented and call for the Government to implement this order in a manner consistent with Lithuanian law.

Your friends in America and in Congress value Lithuania's good name and good international reputation. This good reputation is based on respecting the highest values of human rights and dignity. The lack of action by your government to protect the Šnipiškės cemetery is inconsistent with these values. As friends of Lithuania, we urge you to concretely and constructively address this issue.

Sincerely,



John Shimkus  
Member of Congress



Dennis Kucinich  
Member of Congress

Tom Long

John Lee

Justin Lee

Jeff Davis

Paul Davis

Kyle Long

Thomas Long

Rod M. Higgins

Scott Garrett

Wade Gigs  
James Gigs

Judy Biggert

Bill Gali

Pete Roman

Myron J. Schwartz

Jim McEwen

Gene Schenck

Way L. Rust

Don Hubert

Dave Hobbs

Phil Chrysler

Pat Wehl

Harv Anderson

Howard L. Berman

Dan Lepinski

Jimmy K. Costello

Steven N. Nott

Chris Smith

Paul Shyden

Carver B. Melong

Ray Zickman

William M. Kelly

Fred Lytle

Chris Van Hellen

Thomas Byrnes

Frank Patton Jr.

Mike Sugar

Mike Page

Jim Thentel

David Price

John Sallin

Carl Schiff

Ed A. Brady

Harold Daygott

Jerry Moran

Oliver King

John

Ray Blunt