

February 1st, 2016

Re: Vote NO on S.J. Resolution 9

Dear Senator Collins:

We, the undersigned 154 students, alumni and professors of St. Lawrence University¹ write to ask you to stand up against corruption.

The bipartisan Cardin-Lugar Anti-Corruption provision is under attack in Congress.² This groundbreaking law requires oil, gas and mining companies to publicly report their payments for access to natural resources in every country of operation, including the United States.³

On Monday, a resolution - S.J. Res. 9 - was introduced in the Senate that would void the regulation implementing this critical law.⁴

The law is meant to combat the impacts of the resource curse, a paradoxical situation where countries with abundant natural resources, suffer from debt, poor governance and low levels of human development. Due to mismanagement and corruption, billions of dollars in resource wealth disappear into the pockets of corrupt corporate and political elites every year. The Cardin-Lugar Anti-Corruption rule, could put a stop to it, by allowing citizens to follow the money and hold their leaders accountable.

As Chair of the Committee on Governmental Affairs in 2004, you led its investigation into money laundering and foreign corruption involving Riggs Bank. The investigation looked in part at payments made by US oil companies to Equatorial Guinea's (EG) accounts at Riggs. Equatorial Guinea is one of the most resource rich countries in the world, yet the people there remain some of the poorest, as the nation's resources have been plundered by the kleptocratic "President for Life" Teodoro Obiang.⁵

The investigation revealed that US oil companies made large payments into the accounts of EG officials and their relatives.⁶ These illicit payments included covering the travel and tuition

¹ List of signatories below, those from Maine are bolded.

² Also known as Section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act.

³ For further details, please see this fact sheet by Publish What You Pay - United States:
<http://www.pwypusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2017Cardin-LugarProvisionFactSheet.pdf>

⁴ For further details, please see this fact sheet by Publish What You Pay - United States:
<http://www.pwypusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/CongressionalReviewActFactSheetforCongress2017.pdf>

⁵ Global Witness Report, "*Secret Life of a Shopaholic*," November 2009:
<https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/corruption-and-money-laundering/banks/secret-life-shopaholic/>

⁶ PSI committee report on *Money Laundering and Foreign Corruption: Enforcement and Effectiveness of the Patriot Act*:
<https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/subcommittees/investigations/hearings/money-laundering-and-foreign-corruption-enforcement-and-effectiveness-of-the-patriot-act>

expenses of students of wealthy EG officials attending college in the US; for expenses associated with EG's United Nations mission and Embassy in NY and DC; and for housing and security services in EG. None of those payments would have been made public without the investigation in your committee.⁷

You have been a leader in combatting corruption and increasing transparency. Your work uncovering illicit payments in the natural resource sector helped to provide the inspiration for laws like the Cardin-Lugar provision.

This law, which has catalyzed equivalent legislation in the European Union, Canada, and Norway, is now being implemented in over 30 countries. Major oil and mining companies such as Total, BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, Statoil and Kosmos have made public their support for this critical anti-corruption regulation.

Instability and violent conflict thrive in environments where bribery and corruption are unchecked. The Cardin-Lugar Anti-Corruption provision will impede corrupt behavior, slowing the drivers that often lead to violent extremism and conflict that are a direct threat to global security, and US national and energy security.⁸

We ask that you continue your leadership in fighting corruption by voting NO on S.J. Resolution 9.

Please contact Jana Morgan, director of Publish What You Pay - United States and 2007 alum, with any questions or concerns. She can be reached at jmorgan@pwypusa.org or 202-496-1189.

Sincerely,

A. Paige	Veidenheimer	2012	Seattle, WA
Adele	Broberg	2011	Portland, OR
Aimee	Baker	2004	Plattsburgh, NY
Alexis	Savage	2010	Westport, CT
Alimot	Yusuff	2016	Potsdam, NY
Allison	Stamler	2020	Brattleboro, VT
Amanda	Wall	2001	Phoenix, NY
Amanda	Brooks	1995	Westford, MA
Amanda	Dox Bobbett	2007	Syracuse, NY

⁷ O'Brien, Timothy, "At Riggs Bank, A Tangled Path Led to Scandal," NY Times, July 2004: http://www.nytimes.com/2004/07/19/us/at-riggs-bank-a-tangled-path-led-to-scandal.html?_r=0

⁸ Sewall, Sarah, "This is one of our top strategies for fighting terrorism," CNBC, December 2016: <http://www.cnbc.com/2016/12/15/this-is-one-of-our-top-strategies-for-fighting-terrorism-state-department-official-commentary.html>

Amy	Ouimet	2006	West Point, NY
Amy	Hauber	Professor of Art	Canton, NY
Amy	Bolis	2009	Minneapolis, MN
Andrea	Adams	2007	Fort Mill, SC
Andrew	Dana	2004	Gardiner, NY
Anna	Brouillette	2017	Essex, VT
Anna	Kassab	2014	Washington, D.C.
Anne	Csete	Associate professor of History	Hermon, NY
Arianwen	Jones	2010	Furlong, PA
Benjamin	Fernando	2001 Doctor of Medicine	Atlanta, GA
Brian	Lind	2004	Seattle, WA
Bridget	Ireland	2018	Moultonborough NH
Brittany	Cuff	2016	Summerville, SC
Calvin	Exoo	Prof. of Government	Canton, NY
Candice	Rowser	2002 Adj Asst Prof History	Queens NY
Carol	Kissam	Rhetoric and Public speaking	Colton, NY
Catherine	Tedford	Gallery Director	Colton, NY
Catherine	Rosen	2016	Bloomfield, NJ
Chloe	McElligott	2016	Watertown, MA
Chris	Brown	2008	Ballston Lake, NY
Christian	Exoo	2004	Canton, NY
Christine	Reyes Posligua	2017	New York, NY
Claire	Mendes	2018	Brunswick, ME
Clare	Franco	2012	Boston, MA
Colin	Campbell	2007	Hopkinton, MA
Colleen	Callahan-Panday	2006	Worcester, MA
Colleen	Ryan	2015	Champlain, NY
Courtney	Jonas	2005	Charlottesville, Virginia
Courtney	Bliss	2018	Lakeville, CT
Dameian	Bossarte	2019	Cambridge, MA
Dan	Shafer	2008	Brooklyn, NY
Dana	Wilkins	2009	New York, NY
David	Henderson	Associate Professor of Music	Rensselaer Falls, NY

Devon	Gulbrandsen	2015	Holmes, NY
		FYP Assistant	
Diane	Exoo	Professor/Adjunct	Canton, NY
Dominic	Brennan	2015	Burlington, VT
		Associate Professor of	
Donna	Alvah	History	Canton, NY
Duff	Archie	2018	Alexandria, VA
E-Ben	Grisby	1999	Appleton, WI
Eaman	Sarwar	2015	Brooklyn, NY
Emily	Muren (Crispino)	2006, M2011	Winooski, VT
Emily	Adams	2016	Atlanta, GA
Emily	Rama	2009	South Portland, ME
Emily	Bearse	2006	Bridgton, ME
Emily	Grimes	2005	Colchester, VT
Emily	Lorraine	2017	Syracuse, NY
Emma	Kearney	2012	Northampton, MA
Emma	Hennessey	2017	Vashon Island, WA
Emma	Rentz	2012	Washington, DC
Erika	Barthelmess	Professor of Biology	Canton, NY
Erin	McCarthy	Professor of Philosophy	Ottawa, Ontario
Erin	Hogan	2019	Delmar, NY
Estela	Lucas	2018	Bronx, NY
Evelyn	Jennings	Professor of History	Canton, NY
Floor	Fiers	2019	Bladel, the Netherlands
George	Ciccariello-Maher	2001	Poland Spring, ME
Germaine	Garcia	2019	Union, NJ
Gunnar	Ohlson	2017	Snowmass Village, CO
Hannah	Bovee	2020	Essex, VT
Hannah	Cohen	2015	Washington, DC
Hayley	Humiston	2016	Washington, DC
Hollynn	Francis	2003	Nottingham, NH
Isis	Flores	2019	Tarrytown, NY
Jacob	Malcomb	2010	Charlottesville, VA
			Saranac Lake, NY
Jamie	Ford	2006	(hometown Presque Isle, ME)
Jana	Morgan	2007	Washington, DC
Jasmine	Galindo	2015	Pittsburgh, PA

Jennifer	Thomas	Assistant Professor of Performance	Canton, NY
Jennifer	MacGregor	1981	Canton, NY
Jessica	Bartlett	2004	Chapman, ME
John	Gursky	2007	Taipei, Taiwan
John	Collins	Professor of Global Studies	Canton, NY
Jon	Rosales	Professor of Environmental Studies	Canton, NY
Jonathan	Ten Eyck	2017	Framingham, MA
Jordan	Pescrillo	2012	Buffalo, NY
Jordyn	Pasiak	2014	Portland, OR
Joshua	Johnson	2010	Washington, D.C.
Josie	Brown	2017	Syracuse, NY
Julianne	DeGuardi	2017	Ballston Spa, NY
Kalin	Long	2016	Wilbraham, MA
Katelyn	LaBarge	2016	Seneca Falls, NY
Katharine	Litka	2015	Brooklyn, NY
Kathleen	Buckley	Faith instructor	Hermon, NY
Kathleen	Stein	Instructor, Art History	Canton, NY
Kelly	ORyan	2004	Putney, VT
Kristin	McKie	Assistant Professor of Government and African Studies	Canton, NY
Kyani	Vazquez	2016	Portland, ME
Laura	Evans	2008	Seattle, WA
Leah	Rohlfen	Associate Professor of Sociology	Canton, NY
Liana	Baker	2016	Brooklyn, NY
Lisa	Manoogian	2010	Santa Cruz, CA
Lucinda	Hannington	2008	Portland, ME
Lucius	Robinson	2009	New York, NY
Lucy	Burr	2020	Essex, CT
Luje	Kaplan	2012	Lenox, MA
Lukas	Steelman	2015	Boston, MA
Lydia	Schneider	2019	Old Town, ME
Lyndsay	Malcomb	2010	Tupper Lake, NY
Maggie	Curran	2005	Haverhill MA
Mallory	Craig-Kuhn	2007	Nunda, NY

Mallory	Garretson	2015	Marathon, FL
Margaret	Chandler	2017	Dorset, VT
Margaret	Wright	2013	Rochester, NY
Marguerite	Wiser	2017	Bridgton, ME
Maria	Hutchins-Cabibi	2006	Durham, NC
Mariah	Dignan	2016	Washington, D.C.
Marissa	Nati	2018	Akron, NY
Matt	Carotenuto	Associate Professor of History	Canton, NY
Maya	Williams	2016	Washington, D.C.
Meghan	Moore	2008	Boston, MA
Melissane	Schrems	Associate Professor of History	Canton, NY
Micaiah	Bradley	2018	Watertown, NY
Molly	Shangraw	2004	Weymouth, MA
Monica	Manning	2018	Brunswick ME
Moya	Cavanagh	2016	Canton, NY
Natalia	Singer	Professor of English	Canton, New York
Nicholas	Filannino	2020	South Salem, NY
Nick	Sirianno	2012	Boston, MA
Nicole	Eigbrett	2014	Quincy, MA
Norbert	Oros	2019	Canton, NY
Nyssa	Knarvik	2007	Albany, NY
Olivia	White	2017	Southwick, MA
Rachel	Mills	2018	Jefferson City, MO
Rhonda Danielle	Egan	Professor Gender and Sexuality Studies	Canton, NY
Rolando	Pintos	2007	Washington, D.C.
Ronnie	Olesker	Associate Professor of Government	Canton, NY
Rosie	Sacco	2020	Westchester, NY
Rumsey	Torrey	2007	Ferrisburgh, VT
Ryan	Ficano	2017	Oneonta, NY
Ryan	Gillard	2011	Plainfield, VT
Sabrina	Walton	2018	Sharon, CT
Sarah	Morosko	2018	Canton, NY
Sarah	Gates	Associate Professor of English	Canton, NY

Sarah	Bercovitz	2019	Oneonta, NY
		Associate University	
Shaun	Whitehead	Chaplain	Canton, NY
Somdeep	Sen	2007	Copenhagen, Denmark
sophia	hasenus	2003	Boston, MA
Susmita	Chowdhury	2011	Jackson Heights, NY
Thomas	Kelahan	2017	Hooksett, NH
Trisha	Smrecak	2006	Birmingham, AL
Tsewang	Lama	2010	Canton, NY
Tyler	Senecharles	2020	Queens, NY
Victoria	Morrow (Mclaughlin)	2007	York Harbor, ME
William	Foote	2017	Rockport, ME
Zelie	Wright-Neil	2015	Leicester, VT