

# United States Senate

October 17, 2014

The Honorable John F. Kerry  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Secretary:

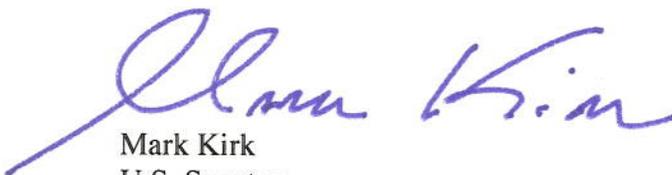
I write to urge you to impose an immediate halt in the issuance of United States visas at our consular facilities in Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia, the countries that are the epicenter of the current outbreak of the Ebola virus.

Over 4,400 people have died from Ebola in these acutely affected countries, with nearly 9,000 suspected and confirmed as infected. Continuing to issue visas to citizens of these countries puts the American public in harm's way.

On August 8, 2014, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Ebola outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. I request that you respond in writing with the number of U.S. visas that have been issued to citizens of Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia since August 8th.

I look forward to your immediate response to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mark Kirk  
U.S. Senator

CC: The Honorable Deborah R. Malac, United States Ambassador to Liberia  
The Honorable Alexander M. Laskaris, United States Ambassador to Guinea  
The Honorable John Hoover, United States Ambassador to Sierra Leone