



24th Chair of the Senate of Ireland

To Whom This May Concern,

I am delighted to share some information with you and your committee members which may be of interest.

The links between Ireland and the United States are strong and enduring. In 2024 we celebrated the 100th anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between our two republics. The United States was there for Ireland over one hundred years ago in our struggle for Independence, the only country mentioned by name, other than Ireland, in the 1916 Proclamation, Ireland's equivalent of the American Declaration of Independence, is your country where it says, "supported by her exiled children in America".

The United States was also there for Ireland just over 25 years ago for the Good Friday Peace Agreement. We know there are people alive in Ireland today because of the continual bipartisan support of State Legislators; successive US Presidents, the United States Senate, the United States House of Representatives and various elected officials who worked with the Government of Ireland to ensure the success of the Good Friday Peace Agreement, after 20 years of violence. For the ongoing support of the United States for our Peace Process, we in Ireland are eternally grateful.

We want to continue to promote ongoing trade, peace, education, political and people to people links. Ireland has direct access to the EU Market of 449 million people and 959 American companies, already based in Ireland, using it as a gateway to this EU Market. This is a two-way relationship with Ireland, as Ireland is the eighth largest investor in the United States.

Assemblywoman Carol Murphy who is the democratic whip in the New Jersey Assembly following a visit by a delegation from the New Jersey Legislature to Ireland authored the New Jersey Ireland Trade Commission Legislation, this legislation was then picked up by the Republican Speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates, both Bills have been passed into law and signed by the Governors in their respective states. The majority of US State Legislatures have now produced legislation to establish an Ireland Trade Commission.

I hope your State can work on this initiative and I look forward to building the great links between the United States and Ireland, in the years to come.

Is mise le meas

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