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Claiborne Pell

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

April 23, 1991

Your Holiness:

Your visit to Washington last week was an event of important political significance and a great pleasure for me. You can, of course, be assured of my continuing support in your efforts for self-determination and other fundamental rights for the people of Tibet.

It was with much personal satisfaction that I learned of your interview with Voice of America for broadcast into Tibet, as it was with Senator Helms that I introduced the authorizing legislation for the Tibetan service in 1989. It is my hope that we can find additional ways to fortify an endangered Tibetan culture.

In this regard, I received a letter from the Minnesota Opera last month which, in my view, merits some attention. They are producing a new opera, "Snow Leopard," to be performed in recognition of the International Year of Tibet. The artistic directors, Mr. Krywosz and Miss Petrovich, are continuing their background research and planning trips to Lhasa and Dharamsala, where they will seek an audience with you. A brief meeting with you would ensure a measure of authenticity and sensitivity to their endeavor. I believe "Snow Leopard" will be a beautiful artistic tribute to the Tibetan culture, but of more importance will be its educational value. This could be a fine opportunity to inform the public of the situation in Tibet.

Again, I congratulate you on your important meetings with President Bush and the Congress. I hope you enjoyed the brief respite from your demanding schedule at our luncheon with my colleagues on the Foreign Relations Committee and other old friends, and I look forward to our next visit.

With every good wish.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell
Chairman
Subcommittee on Education,
Arts and Humanities

His Holiness the Dalai Lama
Dharamsala