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Dear Friend,

President Obama campaigned and won convincingly on pursuing an energetic agenda for middle class progress, ending the war in Afghanistan, confronting the real threat of climate change, and agreeing on a balanced approach to reducing our national debt. Tonight, I was encouraged to see him fully embrace that victory and those important priorities.

I was particularly pleased to hear him fully embrace the sensible, job-creating policy of energy efficiency that was pioneered in Vermont. And I am grateful for his endorsement of my legislation that will allow middle class homeowners current on their mortgages to cut their monthly payments by refinancing at today's low interest rates.

I was also encouraged by the President's call for progress from a Congress that has failed to function. The fact that we don't agree on everything can no longer be an excuse for doing nothing. Washington needs to operate more like Vermont where we listen to one another and make progress by finding common ground. I will continue my work with Members on both sides of the aisle to bring Vermont's practical, common sense problem solving to Congress.

The President's remarks fell short of addressing real concerns about the administration's use of drones. I believe he must submit this policy to constitutional checks and balances, including greater oversight and transparency. I expect to hear more from him on this issue in the near future.

Sincerely,

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