

January 6, 2018

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow

U.S. Senator Gary Peters

Elissa Slotkin

Gretchen Whitmer

U.S. House of Representatives

Michigan Governor

RE: Corporate Citizen's Accountability Most Especially General Motors

Dear Elected Official,

With the recent advent of Corporations being legally conveyed "personhood or persons" ["Citizens United v Federal Election Commission" 588 US 310 (2010), that expanded "Santa Clara County v Southern Pacific Railroad Co." 118 US 394 (1886)]; I respectfully request a Congressional review of the U.S. Constitution, existing Statutory Laws and U.S. Supreme Court decisions (Case Law) regarding the matter of Treason. For the purpose of assessing whether such laws adequately address Corporate Persons in the matter of Treason. The existing laws as I understand them are:

U.S Constitution Article 3, Section 3 (Ratified June 21, 1788):

"Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open Court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attainted."

18 U.S. Code § 2381 - Treason Penalty (June 25, 1948 Amended September 13, 1994)

"Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States, levies war against them or adheres to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort within the United States or elsewhere, is guilty of treason and shall suffer death, or shall be imprisoned not less than five years and fined under this title but not less than \$10,000; and shall be incapable of holding any office under the United States."

As you can easily discern, the Constitution was written 98 years prior to being considered a person and 222 years prior to "Personhood" being conveyed upon Corporations.

Also, historically any human persons convicted of Treason were executed. Most notably John Brown executed for attempting to organize armed resistance to slavery, (December 2, 1859), and William Bruce Mumford, executed for tearing down a United States flag (June 7, 1862)

Might I suggest that Treason punishment of "execution" of a convicted "Corporate Person" ought to consist of the revocation of their Corporate Entity status in the state in which they are incorporated, and that the convicted corporation, and any like-kind global entity that may be subsequently created, be barred from ever doing business in the United States.

REASONS THAT GIVE RISE TO MY REQUEST

Whereas: It is my historical recollection, and the basis for my non-academic research project 1989 – 1992, that during the 1982 G-7 Mexico City Summit, on the matter of how Countries collect their respective “Cost Of Government” (Taxes), that it was determined that the United States of America remain on a “point of manufacture” – Payroll Withholding Tax, and that existing countries – in whole or in part, and the economies of all emerging countries (China included) would change to or establish a “point of sale” Sales Tax (aka V.A.T. Valuate Added Tax) as a method of collecting their respective “Cost Of Government”. And...

Whereas: This “Point of Manufacture” vs “Point of Sale” difference in tax collection was, and remains, amazing imperceptible to the unwitting human citizens of the United States of America as nothing changed in our country. And...

Whereas: Other global countries quickly understood the value and amazing advantage of converting – in whole or in part – or establishing a “point of sale” Sales Tax. As, they continue to collect their own “cost of government” for their country by and through sales in their country, however, exported products to the targeted consumer economy of the United States of America were not sold in their country, and thus their products were exported with zero cost of government sales tax. Giving other global countries a distinct selling advantage in the targeted U.S. consumer economy. And...

Whereas: U.S. Consumers enjoyed the benefit of being able to purchase like-kind foreign products at a discount – arguably the 32% of the “point of manufacture” payroll withholding tax that is built into the price of U.S. manufactured products, and...

Whereas: Purchases of reduced priced products, due to the lack of any C.O.G. tax being collected in such products; also caused the exodus of capital via the U. S. Trade Deficit, and the exodus of jobs as the products were manufactured in the respective foreign country, and...

Whereas: In 1982 the U.S. national debt was approximately 500 billion dollars, yes that was billion not trillion, and...

Whereas: Using the baseline of \$500b in 1982, and calculating the U.S. Monthly trade deficit and compounding that [monthly] by the respective interest rate of the 10-year U.S. Treasury bill; the result is approximately \$21 trillion dollars, the same amount of our current \$21 trillion-dollar national debt, and...

Whereas: The Hellenistic mathematician Euclid's work yielded that "Things which are equal to the same thing are equal to each other." [Related] Therefore, I submit that the compounded trade deficit of \$21T is in fact the cause of our \$21T National Debt, and...

Whereas: The Us Federal Reserve masked such an exodus of capital with an approximate \$9 Trillion stimulus from 2008 until 2016, and...

Whereas: This \$9T “stimulus element” of the Keynesian Theory of U.S. Economics was not effective for the U.S. as the stimulus only stimulated other foreign economies where the manufacture was actually being done.

Whereas: Thus “stimulus recapture element” of the Keynesian Theory of U.S. Economics is not available as there is no expanded “Point of Manufacture” base from which stimulus was historically recaptured. Currently the U.S. Federal Reserve is currently “unwinding” / recapturing [Selling its inventory of securities] the stimulus it previously provided, and the full impact of that is yet to be felt by the U.S. Economy, and...

Whereas: Prominent MIT economist and Dean Lester C. Thurow, in his 1989 speech to the National Press Club (Speech details, not content, are to the best of my recollection – Though I have the video), spoke to and warned of such impending attacks on the U.S. Economy by other foreign countries, and...

Whereas: *The exodus of capital and jobs* caused by the global tax imbalance [Payroll withholding tax v Sales tax] here-in established as the actual cause of our current \$21T and rising U.S. Debt, ***is indeed unstainable***, and...

Whereas: While most reasonable human citizens now see this foreign attack on the U.S. consumer-based economy as outright *economic war*. Though, actual war has not at all been declared – it is clear to most reasonable human citizens that the U.S. most assuredly has “global economic enemies”, and...

Whereas: Thus, the fact that the U.S. does indeed have “global economic enemies” the text of the U.S. Constitution Article 3, section 3, “...the adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort.” Would certainly apply to current treasonous economic traitors – both human and corporate citizens. However additional legislation may be required – especially regarding punishment of newly emerged “Corporate Citizens”.

Suggestions to arrest and immediately reverse the rising national debt, the exodus of capital and jobs.

Whereas: Targeted tariffs do not address the entire magnitude of the U.S. trade deficit problem, and...

Whereas: The current “Targeted Tariffs” have caused the increase in a 1,000 foot box of 12-2 Romex wire for home construction to increase from \$169.00 to \$299.00, and the cost of lumber alone to build the average house to increase by \$7,000.00, and...

Whereas: The aforementioned cost increased far exceed any such sales tax that is the root cause of the U.S. Problem, and...

Whereas: A tax change, best initiated and approved in the legislature, be made, and...

Whereas: It is suggested that the aforementioned tax change be: A sales tax, commensurate to the importing country’s own sales tax, be collected on any and all imported products, and so-as to not violate GATT [Global Agreement on Tax and Tariffs] that the captured sales tax simply be returned to the importing country. However, as a penalty for attacking the U.S. Consumer economy since 1982; that a \$21T penalty be accessed on the first \$21T captured sales tax, and that then be directly applied to the U.S. Debt, and once that penalty is retired begin returning the monies to the importing country. (This should also satisfy the Keynesian element of “stimulus recapture”.)

Whereas: The above suggestion addresses, and ought to resolve the trade deficit problem in its entirety, and not just targeted problems.

Legislative Review Of Existing Treason Law – Especially With Regard To Newly Established Corporate Citizens

Whereas: During your legislative review, that you consider, while war has not been declared, the United States of America is at economic war and has been since 1982, and...

Whereas: After 1982 many corporations quickly realized the advantages of conducting manufacturing processes and selling those products in the U.S. with zero Cost of Government (tax) being imposed on the products. An advantage of arguably 32%, and certainly enticing the U.S. Consumer to purchase those low-cost products causing a “huge sucking sound” of capital and jobs exiting the country, al-be-it such transfers of wealth and employment are indeed silent, and...

Whereas: Many U.S. corporate citizens may be culpable in this exodus of capital and jobs, and there appears to be one such U.S. corporate citizen that stands out as head and shoulders above any and all other U.S. corporate citizens in this regard, and that U.S. Corporate citizen is General Motors, and...

Whereas: General Motors appears to stand out as head and shoulders above any and all other U.S. corporate citizens for the following reasons:

Whereas: Previously General Motors has come before the United States Congress – hat in hand – begging for bail out relief in of some \$51b billions of dollars that was indeed granted to the General Motors Corporation, much of which has yet to be repaid to the government despite their record profits every fiscal quarter since the bailout, and...

Whereas: On November 2, 2018 General Motors announced the no product allocated and/or potential closing of four U.S. plants, and one Canadian plant, and additional relocations of manufacturing processes and jobs to outside the U.S. borders. Also, GM has subsequently indicated that some 5 additional plants are at risk as those are substantially below GM’s desired capacity utilization of 80%, and...

Whereas: The Union represented hourly work force has made many wage and benefit accommodations to the General Motors Corporation, to include:

1. In the 1982 concessionary negotiations and agreement among many other things conceded 9 paid personal holidays back to the Corporation, and...
2. Since 1982 top tier wages have been extraordinarily suppressed relative to the price of comparable General Motors products resulting in the disintegration of buying power by the active employee hourly workforce, and...
3. Since the advent of the GM/UAW health care VEBA in 2006 existing retired General Motors employees have ceded \$4,000.00 per year [depending on retiree]; to include:
 - a. the loss of Medicare Part B reimbursement, currently an amount of \$234.00 per month or \$1,608.00 per year, and...
 - b. C.O.L.A Catchup – commonly known as the Christmas Bonus – amounting to \$1,000.00 annually, and...

4. In 2007, all newly hired Union represented workers incurred:
 - a. A 50% reduction of pay, and...
 - b. The loss of a defined pension plan, and...
 - c. The loss of health care in retirement, and...
 - d. The loss of an automatic pathway to seniority status that resulted in:
 - i. New Hire wages relegated to the temporary wage status, and no pathway/automatic attrition to top tier wages [2015 contract allowed some temporaries “in-progression” status over 6 years to top tier wage], and
 - ii. Limited benefits most especially limited health care, and...
 - iii. Limited Vacation, and...
 - iv. Limited Union representation, and...
 - v. When laid off no access to Supplemental Unemployment Benefits [SUB], and...
 - vi. When laid off no access to transfer to another General Motors Facility, and...
5. General Motors L.L.C. was relieved of any further obligation to the Pension Plan after 2008, and...
6. Effect with the 2015 the General Motors/UAW agreement; should the pension plan for existing retirees fall below 80% and or 60% the pension distributions to individual retirees would be automatically cut by 50% and 100% respectively, and...
7. Notwithstanding recent equity market drops, while the equity in the stock markets rose by over 300% from March 6, 2009 to October 4, 2018; the General Motors pension plan actually declined from \$62 billion to \$59 billion dollars. A Congressional question regarding the use of an “executive level pension benefit” by the name of “corporate live insurance” also known as “dead peasant’s insurance” should explain why the General Motors Pension Plan did not appreciate commensurate at or near the performance of the overall equity markets (+ 300%), and...

Whereas: For many reasons, to include “off-shoring” and moves to Mexico, General Motors Union represented Union represented hourly employees working in the United States of America has fallen from 320,000 in 1982 to approximately 52,000 currently. This represents an 84% job loss, and...

Finally - With Regard To All Of The Above

I therefore officially request: that you initiate, support and or conduct a thorough legislative review of U.S. Treason Law, most especially as it considers newly established “Corporate Citizens” – so as to assess if current law and penalties are adequate with regard to said “Corporate Citizens”, and...

I respectfully request: That you use the extraordinarily relevant General Motors and/or General Motors LLC et al as the measure for your legislative review as you consider their many decisions to reduce work in the United States of America and relocate manufacturing outside the confines of the United States of America; and to access if that rises to the level of a violation by a “corporate-citizen” under current law, or if additional law to protect the United States of America is required to address any and all such actions against the United States of America as may exist, and...

I respectfully request: That you do so with the same fervor as the 85th Congress used during their investigation(s) of James Hoffa Sr, and...

I respectfully request: That you employ the tenet of “Noblesse Oblige” as you conduct your investigation, and...

I respectfully request: That During your deliberations you also consider the following statements from esteemed leaders of our country's past:

President John Adams, Founding Father; "Government is instituted for the common good: for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men."

President Abraham Lincoln; "All that harms labor is treason to America. No line can be drawn between these two. If any man tells you he loves America, yet he hates labor, he is a liar. If a man tells you he trusts America, yet fears labor, he is a fool.", and...

December 11, 2018 - 44 retired United States Senators; encouraged the current members of the Senate; "to not act out of political allegiances, or personal gain, but rather for the good of the country", and...

December 17, 2018 UAW VP GM Department Terry Dittes; The announcement by General Motors is about more than just our members, this is about the country, and...

December 18, 2018 U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown; The General Motors decision isn't just about the Lordstown workers, this is also about the country, and...

December 19, 2018 Former U.S. VP Joe Biden; This decision by General Motors is not only about the workers it affects country itself.

I respectfully request: If during your legislative review, should you find that any of the activities of General Motors and/or General Motors LLC et al; do in-fact rise to the level of traitorous and treasonous under existing laws that you bind your findings over to the U.S. Attorney General for appropriate prosecution of the Corporate Citizen and/or any decision-making human citizens.

Lastly

Whereas: This document in no way seeks to disparage any General Motors and/or General Motors LLC et al products, or the corporation in any way. However, seeks only that the General Motors corporation and or its decision-making executives be considered and questioned during the above-mentioned request for legislative review.

Whereas: The information in this document is accurate to the best of my recollection or knowledge.

I thank each of you for your time and diligent attention of my requests.

In Kind Regard,

/s/

Leroy McKnight

United States Citizen

Moderator Workin 4 A Livin - Radio Show [Member Michigan Association of Broadcasters]

Retired Member – United Auto Workers

United States Army Sergeant 1969 – 1972