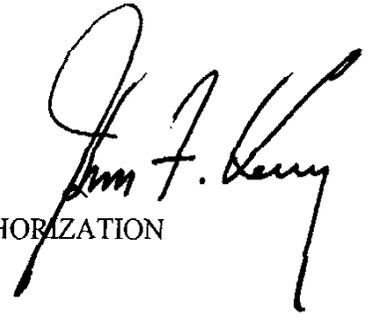


STATEMENT REGARDING S. 2186, THE SBA EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION  
EXTENSION ACT OF 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim F. Kerry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, yesterday I introduced a bill, S. 2186, to keep the SBA, its two largest lending programs, the 504 and 7(a) Loan Guarantee Programs, and the Women's Business Centers up and running through the remainder of this year, September 30, 2004. I ask unanimous consent that this letter of support from the trade association of 7(a) lenders, the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders, be printed in the Record. Along with NAGGL, I thank the American Bankers Association, the Independent Community Bankers of America, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the other small business associations, that have helped us find solutions, demonstrating great cooperation in a difficult position, to help small businesses.