

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 3, 2010

The Honorable Hillary Clinton
Secretary of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Madam Secretary,

We recently learned of the selection of a new vendor, Orrefors, for the design and production of stemware for U.S. Department of State Embassies worldwide. Orrefors USA President, Jack Repetto, is quoted in various news sources as saying that the opportunity allows Orrefors to "demonstrate the high quality of craftsmanship from our factories in Sweden."

It is our understanding that before the selection of Orrefors to fulfill the Department of State Embassies stemware contract, SteubenGlass, an American company, has been meeting the Stemware needs of the U.S. State Department Embassies since President Harry Truman's Administration (1947). It is also our understanding that SteubenGlass was not offered the opportunity to present a bid.

It is difficult for us to understand why the Department of State would select a Swedish company over an American company that has a seven-decade tradition of manufacturing the embassies' stemware. We believe the U.S. State Department should be supporting jobs for American workers and should be supporting American products, especially in these difficult economic times.

Good-paying American jobs are on the line, so we ask for a prompt response and that the proper authority reviews the process by which a foreign company was awarded a no-bid contract over an American company employing American workers.

Sincerely,



Pat Tiberi
Member of Congress
Ohio's 12th Congressional District



Eric Massa
Member of Congress
New York's 29th Congressional District