

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 20, 2006

His Excellency Mariano Fernandez
Ambassador
Embassy of Chile
1732 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

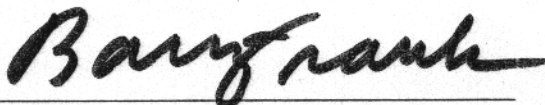
Dear Ambassador Fernandez:

We offer our congratulations and best wishes on your new position.

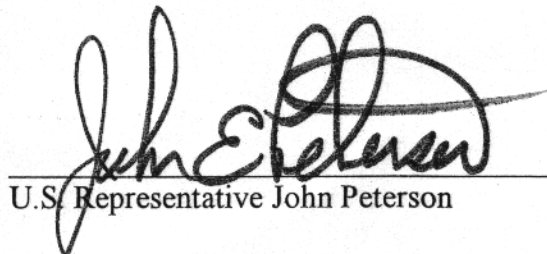
We are writing to urge your government to maintain a heightened focus on the case of Boris Weisfeiler, the Russian-born American citizen who disappeared in Chile in 1985. Because we represent the areas in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania where, respectively, Professor Weisfeiler's surviving relatives currently live, and he resided when he was affiliated with Pennsylvania State University, we have been actively involved for many years in the efforts to bring about a full accounting of his fate.

As you are likely aware, at a meeting in July attended by your predecessor Ambassador Bianchi and the Weisfeiler family, President Bachelet stated that the Council for the Defense of the Chilean State was joining the Weisfeiler case as a plaintiff. This was especially welcome news, especially considering the many years that Professor Weisfeiler's sister and niece have devoted to the case. In addition, it now appears that the judge assigned to the case does not accept the original official story about Weisfeiler's accidental death. And, indications of possible involvement in his disappearance by individuals associated with Colonia Dignidad continue to emerge.

For all of these reasons, we are convinced that the Weisfeiler case is at a stage where more than ever it is vital for the Chilean government to make its continued investigation a high priority. We urge you to do all you can in your new capacity as Ambassador to help achieve that goal.



U.S. Representative Barney Frank



U.S. Representative John Peterson