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January 2, 2008

Governor Chris Gregoire
Office of the Governor
PO BOX 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Gregoire,

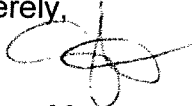
As psychiatrists who practice in the Fremont neighborhood of Seattle, we are writing this letter in support of a suicide barrier on the Aurora Bridge in Seattle, Washington.

The Aurora Bridge does not have a barrier and consequently is the second most used bridge in the nation for suicide attempts. There is unequivocal evidence that the removal of a means for suicide will decrease the incidence of suicide. It is clear that the presence of a barrier will save a significant number of lives and reduce the trauma of eyewitnesses, family and friends.

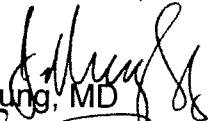
The barrier option is strongly supported. Seattle F.R.I.E.N.D.S is an organization dedicated to reducing suicides from the Aurora Bridge by installing a barrier. WSDOT has researched and endorsed a barrier as part of a proposal to make the Aurora Bridge safer. Mental health clinicians throughout Washington agree that a barrier is necessary.

We appreciate your time and efforts Governor Gregoire. Because of your history of compassionate and diligent work addressing the mental health needs of Washington citizens, we are hopeful that you will help make the Aurora Bridge safer.

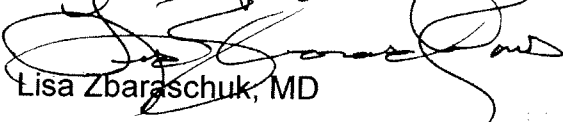
Sincerely,



Shereen Morse, MD, MPH



Jeff Sung, MD



Lisa Zbaraschuk, MD

CC: Ryan Thurston, Seattle FRIENDS