

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4305

October 22, 2010

Indian Community of Houston
Celebration of Dussehra & Diwali

Dear Friends:

I send my best wishes to you on the occasion of Diwali. I recognize this festival holds great significance for Indian Americans and South Asian Americans alike, and I commend your efforts to bring together these communities.

The message of tolerance, compassion, and victory of goodness over evil taught by Diwali presents reason for us all to celebrate, regardless of our religious or ethnic background. As Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and others come together to celebrate the festival of lights, we are reminded that as Americans, we cherish our right to freedom of religion.

Moreover, I am pleased that this event reflects how the Houston area has become such a strong cultural center for Indian Americans. As many of you know, it is my privilege to serve as the co-chairman of the Senate India Caucus, which I founded to educate members of the Senate about the special relationship that exists between the United States and India. Cooperation between our two nations means not only increased economic opportunities, but is also built upon common commitment to fostering the fundamental principles of freedom, democracy, security, and the rule of law throughout the world.

I appreciate having the opportunity to represent the interests of Texans in the United States Senate, and you may be certain that I remain committed to strengthening U.S.-India relations in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Cornyn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator