

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

June 20, 2012

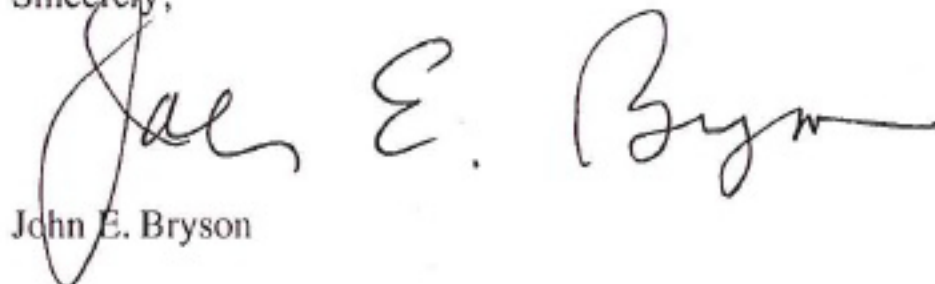
Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to memorialize our conversation.

As a consequence of a recent seizure and medical leave of absence, I advised you that I have decided to step down as the Secretary of Commerce. This is a critical period for our country's economy. We must each day continue to support the growth of America's businesses, exports and manufacturing and the vitally important jobs they create. I have concluded that the seizure I suffered on June 9th could be a distraction from my performance as Secretary and that our country would be better served by a change in leadership of the Department.

It has been an honor to serve you, your Administration and the American public as the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John E. Bryson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being particularly prominent and stylized. The last name "Bryson" is also clearly legible.

John E. Bryson