April 24, 2013

The Honorable Eni F.H. Faleomavaega  
US House of Representatives  
2422 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Faleomavaega:

I am writing to you on behalf of US SIF: The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment. US SIF is the national membership association of investors, firms, institutions and organizations engaged in sustainable and responsible investing (SRI). US SIF members advance investment practices that consider environmental, social and corporate governance criteria to generate long-term competitive financial returns and positive societal impact. On behalf of our members, we commend you and the other sponsors of the Non-Disparagement of Native American Persons and Peoples in Trademark Registration Act of 2013 (H.R. 1278). It is an important bill to help end race-based stereotyping and discrimination against Native American Peoples and prohibiting federal registration for disparaging terms.

Among the member-led groups within US SIF is the Indigenous Peoples Working Group (IPWG) which seeks to bring together Native and Non-Native communities in the area of sustainable and responsible investment. Over the past several years, the IPWG and other US SIF members have been engaged in educational and shareowner advocacy efforts with some corporate sponsors of the Washington NFL franchise to encourage them to stop using the disparaging team name.

We thank you for introducing this bill. Please contact me or Alya Kayal, Deputy Director for Programs and Policy (akayal@ussif.org), for more information.

Sincerely,

Lisa Woll  
CEO  
US SIF: The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment