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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
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May 28, 2002

Mr. Seth R. Thaller, M.D.  
Professor and Chief Division of Plastic Surgery  
University of Miami School of Medicine  
Genetics Division/Department of Pediatrics  
PO Box 016820  
Miami, FL 33101-6820

Dear Mr. Thaller:

I was honored to receive your invitation to the picnic being held by the University of Miami School of Medicine's South Florida Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic on June 1, 2002.

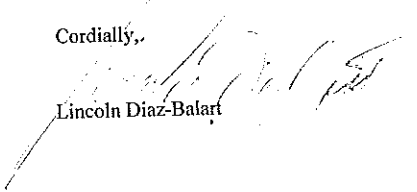
Unfortunately, I am unable to attend due to a previous engagement on that date. However, I wanted to take advantage of this special moment to express my best wishes to you and the many other individuals whose hard work and dedication make this event possible.

Organizations such as the University of Miami School of Medicine's South Florida Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic make a difference in the lives of the countless children and families they serve and it is important that you be encouraged to continue the work you do. I truly commend and admire the University of Miami School of Medicine's South Florida Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic for its extraordinary efforts to help the children born with craniofacial malformations in our community.

I look forward to working with you in the future, and trying to be of assistance on any matter or issue of concern to you.

Once again, and my sincere wishes for your continued success.

Cordially,

  
Lincoln Diaz-Balart

LDB:yf

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 M.C.

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