March 5, 2010

Dear Globaloria Students:

It has been my honor to serve West Virginia as a two-term Governor and, since 1985, as a United States Senator. One of the most important and rewarding accomplishments of my public service career has been to help ensure that all Americans, particularly you and your peers in public schools, gain access to the new technologies that are shaping our world with the support of “E-Rate” – a nationwide program I established in 1996 to connect our schools and libraries to the Internet.

Using these connections to enhance your education is important, and Globaloria does just that. I believe that it is imperative for you and your fellow classmates to use this technology to develop a strong understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (known by the acronym “STEM”). Our future in West Virginia, and as a nation, depends on it.

It is with great excitement that I am joining as the Honorary Chair of West Virginia’s 1st Annual Globaloria Games Competition on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (www.MySTEMgames.org). I am joining the West Virginia Department of Education and the World Wide Workshop Foundation (the inventors of Globaloria) in support of this initiative.

As students creating STEM games, you are invited to enter this exciting competition, where your games will be judged by a panel of distinguished STEM practitioners, policymakers, and game design experts. The student team that receives the highest score will win the special grand prize, and will be featured on several websites.

I applaud you and your Globaloria classmates throughout West Virginia for your willingness to become game-making pioneers and STEM leaders for your generation.

Good luck, and I look forward to playing your games!

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U.S. Senator Jay Rockefeller