



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2003

The Honorable C.W. Young, Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
2407 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David Obey, Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman and Representative Obey,

We are writing to express our strong support for AmeriCorps and to urge your support for the \$100 million supplemental funding for AmeriCorps provided in the recent Senate approved Legislative Branch Appropriations bill.

As you know, AmeriCorps has suffered devastating cuts in 2003 due to the accounting errors and mismanagement of the Corporation for National and Community Service's executives, who oversee the program. We are disappointed that President Bush failed to request funds to stem these cuts to the AmeriCorps program in his recent supplemental appropriations request, which only makes your support for the \$100 million supplemental funding even more critical.

Without an additional \$100 million in funding, there will still be a cut of 20,000 new AmeriCorps service members this year. In addition, hundreds of AmeriCorps' programs risk losing their funding.

While we remain concerned about any errors caused by the Corporation and agree that its leadership and the Bush Administration must take the necessary steps to rectify the situation, we should not punish the thousands of innocent Americans who seek to serve their country and communities for mistakes made by Corporation executives.

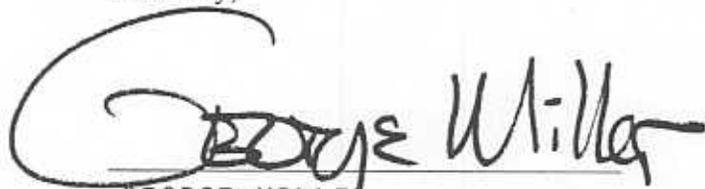
Without additional funding, the service programs, as well as the volunteers and communities - which rely on their help - will be devastated. The infrastructure of many small programs, which do not have the resources to sustain a significant cut to their budget for even one year, will be destroyed.

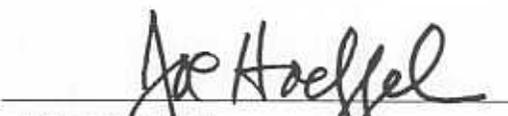
We should do everything in our power to reward the American men and women who have chosen to serve the country and their communities in the hope of meeting the nation's critical education, safety, homeland security and health needs.

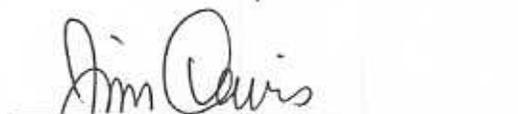
It is in this spirit that we urge you to support the \$100 million in supplemental funding for AmeriCorps and to quickly resolve the AmeriCorps crisis.

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Sincerely,


GEORGE MILLER


JOE HOEFEL

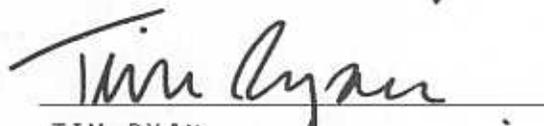

JIM DAVIS

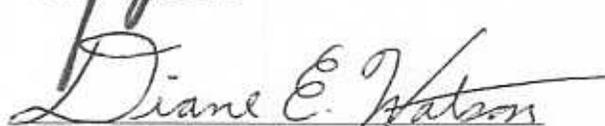

STEVE ISREAL

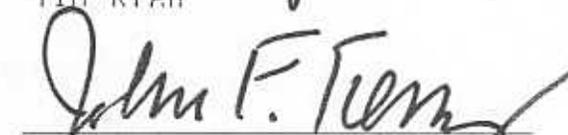

SHELLY BERKLEY

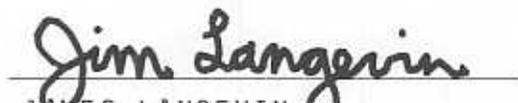

JANICE SCHAKOMSKY

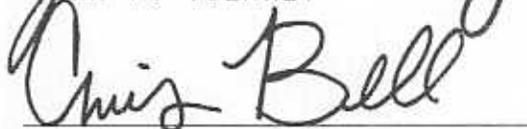

JAY INSLEE


TIM RYAN


DIANE E. WATSON


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JAMES LANGEVIN


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DENISE L. MAJETTE

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John M. Spratt

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RAUL M. GRIJALVA

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MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

Loretta Sanchez

LORETTA SANCHEZ

Timothy Bishop

TIMOTHY BISHOP

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STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

Rush Holt

RUSH HOLT

Tammy Baldwin

TAMMY BALDWIN

Harold Ford

HAROLD FORD

Ron Kind

RON KIND

Susan Davis

SUSAN DAVIS

Loiuse M. Slaughter

LOIUSE M. SLAUGHTER

Ruben Hinojosa

RUBEN HINOJOSA

Robert E. Andrews

ROBERT E. ANDREWS

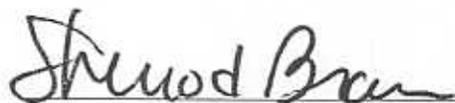
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BENNIE G. THOMPSON



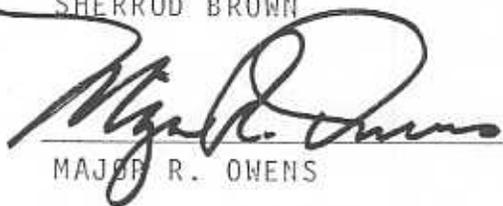
JERROLD NADLER



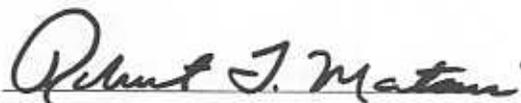
SHERROD BROWN



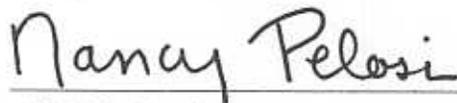
CAROLYN B. MALONEY



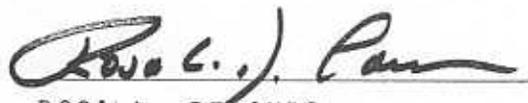
MAJOR R. OWENS



ROBERT T. MATSUI



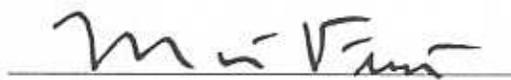
NANCY PELOSI



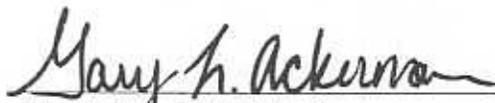
ROSAL L. DELAURO



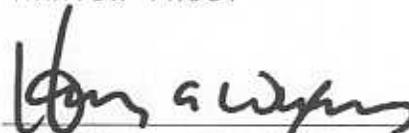
LYNN C. WOOLSEY



MARTIN FROST



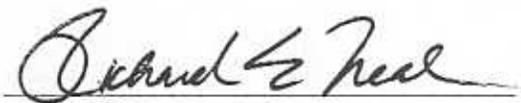
GARY L. ACKERMAN



HENRY A. WAXMAN



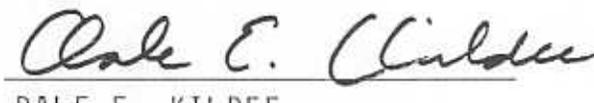
JAMES LEACH



RICHARD E. NEAL



EDWARD J. MARKEY



DALE E. KILDEE

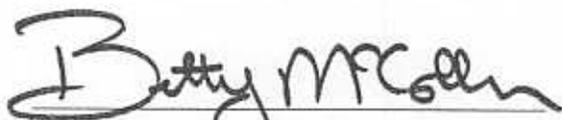


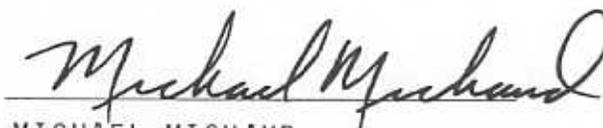
BRAD MILLER

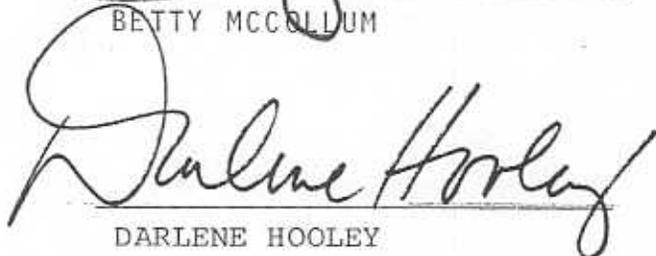


DANNY K. DAVIS

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BETTY MCCOLLUM


MICHAEL MICHAUD


DARLENE HOOLEY