

August, 2011

Dear Representative/Senator: _____

As a constituent and a citizen, I'm asking you to make all programs - AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America, Senior Corps, the Social Innovation Fund, and the Volunteer Generation Fund - under the Corporation for National and Community Service a budget priority. I understand our nation has fiscal challenges and that you have tough decisions to make regarding investments in national priorities. As you make those decisions, please consider the consequences of defunding the Corporation for National and Community Service:

- Nearly **90,000 young adults** and **444,000 seniors** who serve on the front lines of natural disasters, the drop-out crisis and address other community challenges will lose their positions at the **70,000 nonprofits** where they work.
- Nearly **\$1 billion in private investment** will be withdrawn from local communities.
- More than **1.5 million students** will cease to benefit from service-learning programs that promote academic achievement and decrease risky behaviors.
- More than **3 million at-risk children** will lose the instructional support of citizens serving through national service organizations.
- Critical services that **help to reintegrate veterans and keep 1 million seniors living independently** and more would be eliminated.

Below are personal comments that explain my perspective on this issue. Please send a written response to the address below and explain whether you will maintain the investment in the Corporation for National and Community Service in FY12. Our children, schools, seniors and communities rely on the services CNCS programs deliver. The economic downturn has already forced painful cuts in services provided by states and localities, and national service has been the cost-effective strategy to fill the gap and meet the growing demand for services. But if Congress makes additional cuts, organizations providing these vital services will be eliminated from communities in need. **I look forward to sharing your reply with fellow constituents, local organizations, and community leaders who share my belief that investing in the Corporation for National and Community Service is vital for our community and our economy. For more information, please visit www.saveservice.org.**

National service has had a measurable impact on my life and the lives of others.

Here's how service has strengthened our community:

Contact Information (to receive a written reply)

Full Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

My association with national service (i.e. alumni, supporter, etc.):