

March 17, 2009

The Honorable Harry Reid
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
361-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell,

We, the undersigned business and philanthropic leaders, support expanding community and national service opportunities for Americans of all ages. In this difficult time for our country, service remains an enduring American value that brings people together and reminds us of the strength of our common bond.

Over the years, in partnership with government, we have invested in highly effective and innovative programs that engage Americans of all ages in addressing the critical problems of our time. Millions of Americans are contributing their time, talents and energy to help children succeed in school, build affordable housing, improve our parks and public lands, assist the elderly, strengthen access to community health projects, fight poverty, and respond when disaster strikes. These committed Americans are role models for us all. Some serve full-time, dedicating a year or more of their lives to service, while others volunteer part-time, helping out when they can to make a difference or by designing new and innovative approaches to the challenges facing our communities.

We believe that we are at a pivotal moment as a country. Americans of all ages, from millennials to boomers, are stepping forward to serve in record numbers. With unemployment soaring among young and older Americans alike and demand for services from those hit hardest by the economic crisis rising rapidly, we believe the time has come for a new commitment to service and social innovation, one that unites the public and private sectors together with our citizens to harness the energy, commitment and ingenuity we need to weather this crisis and emerge stronger as a nation.

We strongly embrace the effort to expand national and community service opportunities and invest in social innovation as proposed by President Obama and a bi-partisan group of congressional leaders led by Senators Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah). With the passage of this new platform for service and social innovation, communities across America will be able to mobilize the American people and every sector in addressing the challenges we face together.

We urge the Congress to promptly pass and fully fund the bi-partisan Serve America Act.

cc:

Senator Thad Cochran
Senator Daniel Inouye
Senator Edward Kennedy
Senator Michael Enzi
Senator Orrin Hatch
Senator Tom Harkin
Senator Arlen Specter

Sincerely,

1. Rahul Advani, Vice President, Energy Capital Partners
2. Michael Alter, President, The Alter Group
3. Kevin P. Aspell, Vice President, Cisco Systems
4. Kristin Atwood, Trustee, City Year, Inc.
5. Greg Avis, Founding Managing Director, Summit Partners
6. William Ayer, CEO, Alaska Airlines
7. Andrew Balson, Managing Director, Bain Capital LLC
8. Joe Banner, President and Chief Operating Officer, Philadelphia Eagles

9. David Barksdale, Barksdale Foundation
10. Gregory H. Barnhill, Partner, Brown Advisory Securities
11. Ed Bastian, President, Delta Airlines
12. Rich Battista, President, Fox Cable Networks
13. Josh Bekenstein, Managing Director, Bain Capital LLC
14. Scott Belsky, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Behance
15. Max Berger, Managing Partner, BLBG
16. Laura Berk, Jumpstart Board Member and Distinguished Professor of Psychology Emerita, Illinois State University
17. Carolyn S. Berkowitz, Vice President of Community Affairs, Capital One
18. Tom A. Bernstein, President, Chelsea Piers
19. Frank Blake, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, The Home Depot
20. Celia Bobrowsky, Director of Community Affairs, Major League Baseball
21. Doug Borchard, Managing Partner and Chief Operating Officer, New Profit, Inc.
22. Craig A. Bowman, President, Common Ground Consulting LLC
23. Mimi Box, Director, Philadelphia Soul Charitable Foundation
24. Katherine Bradley, President, CityBridge Foundation
25. Harry Brakely, Managing Director, Accenture
26. Shamiere M. Bridgeford, Internal Audit, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota
27. Steven K Brisgel, Brisgel Family Foundation
28. Nick Brown, Managing Director, GFI Group
29. Kelly Caffarelli, President, The Home Depot Foundation
30. David R. Caplan, Retired President and Chief Executive Officer, Concord Fabrics, Inc.
31. Jean Case, Chief Executive Officer, The Case Foundation
32. Steve Case, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Revolution
33. Michael Casciano, Managing Partner, Casciano Consulting
34. Christopher Castano, Director of Alternative Investments, Private Banking and Investment Group, Merrill Lynch
35. Gerald Chertavian, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Year Up
36. Henry Cisneros, Executive Chairman, City View
37. Gary Clare, Partner, Bain & Company
38. Major General Kenneth Clark, Adjutant General, NHNG and CY New Hampshire Board Chair
39. Paul Clark, Partner, Clark and Koller Certified Public Accountants
40. Tory Clarke, Partner, Bridge Partners LLC
41. David Cohen, Executive Vice President, Comcast Corporation
42. Edwin Cohen, President, Carlin Adventures
43. Dr. Jeremy Cohen, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Education, Penn State University
44. Josh Cohen, Managing Director, City Light Capital
45. Kenneth Cole, Chairman, Kenneth Cole Productions
46. Maurice Coleman, SVP, Bank of America
47. Shakim Compere, CEO, Flavor Unit
48. Tim Conway, Chief Executive Officer, NewStar Financial
49. Glenn Cravez, Law Office of Glenn E. Cravez, Inc.
50. Blair Crawford, Director, McKinsey
51. Maria Cuomo Cole, Chair, HELP USA
52. Ann Dayton, Stone Pier Foundation
53. Karen Davis, Vice President Community Relations, Hasbro, Inc. and Chair, Association of Corporate Contribution Professionals
54. Brackett Denniston, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, General Electric
55. Timothy Dibble, Managing General Partner, Alta Communications
56. David Dinour, President, Aviatrade Link, Inc.
57. Sha Dinour, President, Triumph Property Group, Ltd.
58. Liz Dolan, Chief Marketing Officer, OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network
59. Ted Dosch, Senior Vice President of Global Finance, Anixter Inc.
60. Robert Dotson, President and Chief Executive Officer, T-Mobile, USA
61. Levi S. Downs, Jr., M.D., Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Medical School
62. Leo Ehrline, Executive Vice-President, New Jersey Nets
63. Warren Eisenberg, Co-Chairman, Bed Bath & Beyond
64. Jenny Eplett Reilly, Trustee, City Year Inc. and Chair, City Year Louisiana
65. Greg Evans, Nationally Syndicated Cartoonist, Luanne

66. Linda Fears, Editor in Chief, Family Circle
67. Corinne Ferguson, Chair, City Year Boston
68. Tim Ferguson, Founder and Managing Partner, Next Street Financial LLC
69. Paul Finnegan, Co-Chief Executive Officer, Madison Dearborn Partners
70. Dan Fireman, Managing Partner, Fireman Capital Partners
71. David Fleming, President and Chief Executive Officer, ROADCARE PLUS
72. David Ford, Executive Director, Smith Family Foundation
73. Mark Fornasiero, Managing Partner, Clarendon Group
74. Tom Garrett, President and Chief Executive Officer, Arby's Restaurant Group
75. David Gergen, Editor-at-Large, US News & World Report and Director of the Center for Public Leadership, Harvard University
76. Lucia Gibbons, Regional President, Wachovia
77. Ben Goldhirsh, Chief Executive Officer, GOOD Worldwide and Director, Goldhirsh Foundation
78. E. Robert Goodkind, Partner, Pryor Cashman LLP
79. Ken Grouf, Vice President of Marketing and Communications, Spot Runner
80. Jeff Gural, Chairman, Newmark Knight Frank
81. Peter Handrinis, Partner, WilmerHale
82. Charles T. Harris III, Executive Partner, SeaChange Capital Partners
83. Mark Hass, Chief Executive Officer, MS&L Worldwide
84. Andrew Hauptman, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Andell Holdings
85. Evan Heller, Financial Consultant
86. Chris Hessler, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, El Dorado Marketing Group
87. Leo J. Hindery, Jr., Managing Partner, InterMedia Partners
88. Rodney Hines, Director Community Investments, Global Responsibility, Starbucks Coffee Company
89. Tom Holman, Director, Morning Foundation
90. Beverly Horowitz, Vice President Publisher, Bantam Delacorte Dell Books for Young Readers, Random House
91. Beth Hurvitz, Senior Vice President, Visa, Inc.
92. Walter Isaacson, President and Chief Executive Officer, The Aspen Institute
93. Jill Iscoll, Ed.D., President and Executive Director, IF Hummingbird Foundation
94. Ilene Jacobs, Executive Vice President (retired), Fidelity Investments
95. James Jensen, Managing Director, The Genesis Group
96. Hubie Jones, Dean Emeritus, Boston University School of Social Work
97. Kenneth C. Keller, Jr., President, Alberto Culver USA
98. David W. Kenny, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Digitas Inc.
99. Andrew Kerin, Executive Vice President, ARAMARK Corporation/President, North America Food, Hospitality and Facility Services, ARAMARK Corporation
100. Ken Kinsley, Chairman of the Board, Kinsley Power Systems
101. Vanessa Kirsch, President and Founder, New Profit Inc.
102. Ken Klein, President, KLEINCO Properties
103. Mark L Korell, National Channel Executive, Multi-Cultural & Affordable Lending, JPMorgan Chase
104. Roger Krakoff, Venture Partner, Sigma Partners
105. Michelle Kydd Lee, Director, Creative Artists Agency Foundation
106. Gara LaMarche, President and Chief Executive Officer, Atlantic Philanthropies
107. Jonathan Lavine, Managing Director, Bain Capital, LLC and Chief Investment Officer, Sankaty Advisors, LLC
108. Sue Lehmann, Management Consultant
109. Diana Lewis, Co-Chair, City Year Louisiana
110. Bruce R. Lindsey, Chair and Chief Executive Officer, William J. Clinton Foundation
111. Stanley S. Litow, President, IBM International Foundation
112. Peter Loge, Principal, Milo Public Affairs LLC
113. Henry C. Lozano, Senior Vice President, Shinnyo-en Foundation
114. Frank Luntz, Chief Executive Officer, The Word Doctors
115. Jennifer Marrus, Consultant
116. Russell Maxwell, President, Medical Answering Services, LLP
117. Dale J. McCabe, General Manager, Southgate Plaza, Inc.
118. Kevin McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer, UNUM America and UNUM Charitable Foundation
119. Bill McClements, Partner, Monitor Group
120. Larry McCracken, Vice President of Human Capital Management, Golden Key Group, LLC
121. Bonnie McElveen-Hunter, Chief Executive Officer & Owner, Pace Communications and Chairman, American Red Cross
122. Bruce McNamer, President and Chief Executive Officer, TechnoServe

- 123.Ken Meade, Partner, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP
- 124.Sharon Meadows, Chief Credit Officer, Credit Suisse
- 125.Vince Meldrum, Partner, Crecer Strategies
- 126.Richard Menschel, President, Charina Endowment Fund
- 127.Arthur J. Mirante, II, President, Global Client Development, Cushman & Wakefield, Inc.
- 128.Sandra Moore, Executive Director, Urban Strategies, Inc.
- 129.Anne B. Mosle, Vice President, W. K. Kellogg Foundation
- 130.Mario Morino, Chairman, Morino Institute
- 131.Edwin C. Moses, Olympic Gold Medalist, Laureus Sport for Good Foundation
- 132.Rosabeth Moss Kanter, Arbuckle Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School
- 133.Stephanie B. Mudick, Executive Vice President, Global Retail Strategy, JP Morgan Chase
- 134.Margaret S. Murphy, Executive Vice President, Marquette Financial Companies
- 135.Susan B. Neuman, Jumpstart Board Member and Former U.S. Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education
- 136.Craig Newmark, Customer Service Representative and Founder, Craigslist
- 137.Kenneth Ng, Vice President, The Trio Group, Inc.
- 138.Susan Nokes, Chief Customer and Operations Officer , T-Mobile
- 139.Mark Nunnally, Managing Director, Bain Capital
- 140.Kathy Payne, Senior Director-Education Leadership, State Farm Insurance
- 141.Ponchitta Pierce, President, Pierce Consulting
- 142.Christi Pedra, President, Siemens Hearing Instruments
- 143.Ethan Penner, Partner, CB Richard Ellis Investors
- 144.Gregg Petersmeyer, Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Personal Pathways LLC
- 145.Kim Polese, Chief Executive Officer, Spikesource
- 146.Daniel Porter, Founder and Vice President of Marketing, IW Financial
- 147.Joyce Ramos, Vice President of Operations, TOCCA
- 148.William S. Reese, President and Chief Executive Officer, International Youth Foundation
- 149.Sean Reilly, Chief Operating Officer and President, Lamar Advertising Company
- 150.Dan Revers, Managing Partner, ArcLight Capital Partners, LLC
- 151.Kristen L. Ritchie, Senior Vice President & Regional Head of Cash Management, Global Transaction Services- Large Corporate, RBS Americas
- 152.Alonford James Robinson Jr., Chief Executive Officer, Symphonic Strategies, Inc.
- 153.Arthur Rock, Principal, Arthur Rock & Co.
- 154.Jan L. Roller, Attorney, Davis & Young
- 155.Brenda A. Russell, Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- 156.Jeffrey Sachs, President, Sachs Consulting Company
- 157.Paul Salem, Co-Founder & Senior Managing Director, Providence Equity Partners
- 158.Art Samberg, Chairman, Pequot Capital Management
- 159.Laura Samberg
- 160.Jonathan Sandelman, Founder, Sandelman Partners
- 161.Thomas Sander, Executive Director, Saguaro Seminar: Civic Engagement in America
- 162.Diane Schueneman, Former Senior Vice President, Merrill Lynch
- 163.Lesa Scott, President, The Heinemann Company
- 164.Tom Scott, Co-Founder, Nantucket Nectars and Founder, Plum TV
- 165.Janine M.H. Selendy, Chairman and President,
- 166.Patrick J. Sgroi, President, Sgroi Financial LLC
- 167.Douglas Shaw, Principal, M.S. Walker Inc.
- 168.Andrew Shue, Founder, CafeMom and Co-Founder, Do Something
- 169.Elisabeth Shue, Actress
- 170.Lori Sidman, Jumpstart Board Member
- 171.John Simon, Managing Director, General Catalyst Partners
- 172.Scott Simpson, Managing Director, Credit Suisse
- 173.John M. Sirek, Citizen Program Director, McCormick Foundation
- 174.Robert J. Small, Managing Director, Berkshire Partners LLC
- 175.Elizabeth Smith, President, Avon Products
- 176.Paula Sneed, Retired Executive Vice President, Kraft Foods, Inc.
- 177.Larry Stupski, Chairman, Stupski Foundation
- 178.Harvey Spevak, Chief Executive Officer, Equinox
- 179.Jeff Swartz, Chief Executive Officer, Timberland
- 180.Tommy Teepel, Chief Marketing Officer, Lamar Advertising

181. Ron Terwilliger, National Managing Partner, Trammel Crow
182. Jared Thomas Skok, Senior Manager, The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida
183. Laurie M. Tisch, President, Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund
184. Stephanie Trump, Trump Group
185. Craig Underwood, Managing Partner, Underwood Partners
186. Susan Ungaro, President, James Beard Foundation
187. Robert L. Waldron, President, Curriculum Associates
188. John Wallace, Chief Financial Officer, Fundquest
189. Laysha Ward, President of Community Relations, Target
190. Michael Ward, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, CSX
191. Tom Warden, Senior Vice President, The Howard Hughes Corporation
192. Pamela J. Wilcox, President, SAve Advisors LLC
193. Keith Wilmot, Global Director of Innovation, Coca-Cola
194. Stephen G. Woodsum, Founding Managing Director, Summit Partners

*This message reflects the personal opinions of the signatories. Professional affiliations of these signatories are listed for identification purposes only.