Dear Chairman Blunt, Ranking Member Murray, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As leaders of cities across the United States, we are writing to express our support for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency that administers national service programs including AmeriCorps and Senior Corps.

We know that Americans want to help solve the problems facing their communities, including students not reading at grade level, blighted neighborhoods, homelessness, and unemployment. AmeriCorps and Senior Corps enable citizens to serve for a significant period of time, helping to ensure their neighbors’ needs are met in a cost-efficient way. Working hand in hand with thousands of local partners, CNCS programs engage more than 344,000 Americans in results-driven service at more than 50,000 locations across the country each year. These dedicated national service members recruit and manage more than three million additional volunteers who help to create jobs, support veterans and military families, deliver disaster relief, prepare a better-trained workforce, promote health, strengthen local economies, lessen dependence on government, and make neighborhoods safer.

American voters overwhelmingly support the federal investment in CNCS. A poll conducted by TargetPoint Consulting shows that 83 percent of voters want Congress to maintain or increase funding for national service programs. Voters believe that national service helps to prepare young people for the workforce, build stronger neighborhoods and communities, and restore important values of patriotism and civic duty to young people.

CNCS is also a smart public investment. The federal appropriation for CNCS accounts for a mere .03 percent of the federal budget overall, but this modest investment delivers significant returns. Research by economists at Columbia University demonstrates that every dollar invested in national service generates returns to society of nearly four dollars in terms of higher wages, increased output, and community-wide benefits. Additionally, for every $10 in federal money appropriated for CNCS, another $15 is separately raised from other sources to fund national service partnerships in urban, rural and suburban communities nationwide.

Despite overwhelming public support and a clear return on investment, the White House’s fiscal year 2018 budget blueprint proposes to eliminate CNCS, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps. We know the current budgetary climate requires tough decisions regarding federal spending, but if enacted, the White House’s recommendation would have a detrimental effect on our communities. At a time when cities face many challenges, we urge you and your colleagues to protect funding for CNCS—an investment that will strengthen our communities, our people and our nation.

Thank you for your leadership and support.

Sincerely,
Mayor William Bell Sr., Birmingham, Alabama
Mayor Ethan Berkowitz, Anchorage, Alaska
Mayor Timothy Elinski, Cottonwood, Arizona
Mayor Greg Stanton, Phoenix, Arizona
Mayor Mark Mitchell, Tempe, Arizona
Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, Tucson, Arizona
Mayor Mark Stodola, Little Rock, Arkansas
Mayor Tom Tait, Anaheim, California
Mayor Chris Canning, Calistoga, California
Mayor Glenn Sylvester, Daly City, California
Mayor Margaret Finlay, Duarte, California
Vice Mayor John Bauters, Emeryville, California
Mayor Serge Dedina, Imperial Beach, California
Mayor Robert Garcia, Long Beach, California
Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, California
County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Los Angeles, California
Mayor Bruce Delgado, Marina, California
Mayor Reuben Holober, Millbrae, California
Mayor Jill Techel, Napa, California
Mayor Libby Schaaf, Oakland, California
Mayor Tom Butt, Richmond, California
Mayor Darrell Steinberg, Sacramento, California
Mayor Alan Galbraith, Saint Helena, California
Mayor Joe Gunter, Salinas, California
Supervisor Norman Yee, San Francisco, California
Mayor Sam Liccardo, San Jose, California
Mayor Miguel Pulido, Santa Ana, California
Mayor Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara, California
Mayor Elizabeth Patterson, St. Benicia, California
Mayor Elizabeth Patterson, St. Benicia, California
Mayor Corey Warshaw, West Covina, California
Mayor Debora Fudge, Windsor, California
Mayor Muriel Bowser, Washington, District of Columbia
Mayor Steve B. Wilson, Belle Glade, Florida
Mayor Henry Hawkins, Century, Florida
Mayor Henry Hawkins, Century, Florida
Mayor Cary Glickstein, Delray Beach, Florida
City Commissioner Mitchell Katz, Delray Beach, Florida
Mayor Matthew Surrency, Hawthorne, Florida
Commissioner Beverly Williams, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida
Mayor Tomas Regalado, Miami, Florida
Mayor Teresa Jacobs, Orange County, Florida
Mayor Buddy Dyer, Orlando, Florida
Mayor Tom Campenni, Stuart, Florida
City Commissioner Gil Ziffer, Tallahassee, Florida
Mayor Jeri Muoio, West Palm Beach, Florida
Mayor Kasim Reed, Atlanta, Georgia
Councilwoman Lydia Glaize, Fairburn, Georgia
Mayor Vince Williams, Union City, Georgia
Mayor Dodd Ferrelle, Winterville, Georgia
Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Honolulu, Hawaii
Mayor Mike Chamberlain, Belvidere, Illinois
Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago, Illinois
Mayor Rodney Craig, Hanover Park, Illinois
Village President Bill McLeod, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
Mayor Thomas McNamara, Rockford, Illinois
Mayor Ted Rehl, South Beloit, Illinois
City Council Member At-Large Amber Corrieri, Ames, Iowa
Mayor Robert Gallagher, Bettendorf, Iowa
Mayor Frank Klipsch, Davenport, Iowa
Mayor Roy Buol, Dubuque, Iowa
Mayor Tom Henry, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Commission Chairman Jennifer Schartz, Barton County, Kansas
Mayor Paul Bauer, Coffeyville, Kansas
Mayor David McDaniel, Ellis, Kansas
Mayor Jon Daveline, Hutchinson, Kansas
Mayor Larry Jolly, Carlisle, Kentucky
Mayor Wayne Macy, Hardinsburg, Kentucky
Mayor Greg Fischer, Louisville, Kentucky
Mayor Jim Tom Trent, Morehead, Kentucky
Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Mayor Mitch Landrieu, New Orleans, Louisiana
Mayor Michael Pantelides, Annapolis, Maryland
Mayor Catherine Pugh, Baltimore, Maryland
Mayor Jake Day, Salisbury, Maryland
Mayor Jeffrey Slavin, Somerset, Maryland
County Commissioner Ronald Beaty, Barnstable, Massachusetts
Mayor Martin J. Walsh, Boston, Massachusetts
Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken, Gloucester, Massachusetts
Mayor Setti Warren, Newton, Massachusetts
Mayor Domenic Sarno, Springfield, Massachusetts
Mayor Tracy Howard, St. Paul, Massachusetts
Mayor Christopher Taylor, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Mayor Michael E. Duggan, Detroit, Michigan
Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Mayor Emily Larson, Duluth, Minnesota
Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske, Maple Plain, Minnesota
Mayor Del Rae Williams, Moorhead, Minnesota
Mayor George Deiss, Wadena, Minnesota
Mayor Gene Rhorer, Ashland, Missouri
Mayor Michael Seibert, Joplin, Missouri
Mayor Sly James, Kansas City, Missouri
Mayor Lyda Krewson, St. Louis, Missouri
Mayor Luge Hardman, Waynesville, Missouri
Mayor Carson Taylor, Bozeman, Montana
Mayor Bob Kelly, Great Falls, Montana
Mayor John Hollowell, Miles City, Montana
Mayor John Engen, Missoula, Montana
County Commissioner David Strohmaier, Missoula County, Montana
County Commissioner Jean Curtiss, Missoula County, Montana
Mayor Sandra Jones, Roundup, Montana
Mayor Chris Beutler, Lincoln, Nebraska
Mayor Chris Johnson, Elko, Nevada
Mayor Andy Hafen, Henderson, Nevada
Mayor Carolyn Goodman, Las Vegas, Nevada
Mayor John Lee, North Las Vegas, Nevada
Mayor Daniel Corona, West Wendover, Nevada
Mayor Di An Putnam, Winnemucca, Nevada
Mayor Theodore Gatsas, Manchester, New Hampshire
Mayor Steven Fulop, Jersey City, New Jersey
Mayor Richard Berry, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Mayor Tonita Gurulé-Girón, Las Vegas, New Mexico
Mayor Byron Brown, Buffalo, New York
Mayor Bill de Blasio, New York, New York
Mayor Stephanie Miner, Syracuse, New York
Mayor Ian Baltutis, Burlington, North Carolina
Mayor Jennifer Roberts, Charlotte, North Carolina
Mayor Remonia Enoch, Green Level, North Carolina
City Councilwoman Surluta Anthony, Monroe, North Carolina
Mayor Ronnie Thompson, Morganton, North Carolina
Mayor Daniel Horrigan, Akron, Ohio
Mayor Gary Goosman, Amesville, Ohio
Mayor Frank Jackson, Cleveland, Ohio
Mayor Andrew J. Ginther, Columbus, Ohio
Mayor Nan Whaley, Dayton, Ohio
Mayor Cindy Billings, Hartville, Ohio
Mayor Ted Wheeler, Portland, Oregon
Mayor Tim Clark, Wood Village, Oregon
Mayor William Moon Jr., Oil City, Pennsylvania
Mayor James F Kenney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Mayor Bill Peduto, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Mayor C Kim Bracey, York, Pennsylvania
Mayor Jorge Elorza, Providence, Rhode Island
Mayor Scott Avedisian, Warwick, Rhode Island
Mayor Stephen Benjamin, Columbia, South Carolina
Mayor Tom Rowland, Cleveland, Tennessee
Mayor Steve Adler, Austin, Texas
Mayor Suzanne de Leon, Balcones Heights, Texas
Mayor Mike Rawlings, Dallas, Texas
Mayor Oscar Leeser, El Pasp, Texas
County Judge Jay T Elliott, Falls County, Texas
Mayor Howard Raeke, Henrietta, Texas
Mayor Bert Miller, Navasota, Texas
Mayor Derrick Freeman, Port Arthur, Texas
County Judge Charles Ellison, Robertson County, Texas
Mayor Celeste Sanchez, San Benito, Texas
Mayor Allison Silberberg, Alexandria, Virginia
Mayor McKinley Price, Newport News, Virginia
Mayor Levar Stoney, Richmond, Virginia
Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, Washington
Mayor Cheryl Selby, Olympia, Washington
Mayor Deborah Stinson, Port Townsend, Washington
Mayor Edward B. Murray, Seattle, Washington
Mayor Dorothy Judy, Parsons, West Virginia
Mayor Chris Meyer, Marshfield, Wisconsin
Mayor Tom Barrett, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Mayor Pete Muldoon, Jackson, Wyoming
Mayor Ralph Kingan, Wright, Wyoming

Signatures as of May 26, 2017