

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 21, 2026

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education, and Related Agencies
U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Capito and Ranking Member Baldwin:

We write to thank the subcommittee for its past support of national service programs and respectfully ask that you provide \$1.291 billion for AmeriCorps, formally known as the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), in fiscal year (FY) 2027. This strategic investment will support AmeriCorps' vital programs, allowing communities to continue to rely on AmeriCorps for critical services and resources, and help our country meet the goals of the bipartisan *Serve America Act of 2009* (Public Law 111-13).

AmeriCorps is our country's leading provider of grants that support and promote national service and volunteerism. Working hand in hand with thousands of local, faith-based, and national nonprofit organizations, AmeriCorps engages national service participants in results-driven service across the country each year. These dedicated Americans recruit and manage five million additional volunteers as they work to promote employment opportunities, deliver disaster relief, prepare a better-trained workforce, tutor and mentor at-risk students, promote health, and provide essential services to some of our most vulnerable populations, including veterans, children, and seniors. With additional funding, we can protect service opportunities for Americans of all ages, drive more community impact, and continue to improve the agency's financial management and operations.

National service is a public-private partnership that recognizes that no one sector can meet our challenges alone and that America is at its best when citizens work together in pursuit of a common purpose. AmeriCorps leverages approximately \$1 billion in matched resources from the private sector, foundations, and local agencies to help organizations across the country tackle our most persistent and costly challenges by:

- Deploying AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to provide relief and recovery assistance to communities impacted by wildfires, floods, and other disasters across the country;
- Assisting veterans and military family members each year with job training and employment services, benefit counseling, transportation, and housing support;
- Helping Americans lead healthier lives by addressing public health issues such as opioid and substance abuse prevention, reduction, and recovery;
- Increasing access to safe, affordable housing for thousands of families;

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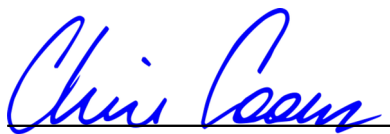
- Addressing food insecurity and hunger by increasing delivery of and access to healthy meals for millions of Americans;
- Providing tutoring and student supports in schools, helping prepare students for college and careers;
- Harnessing the skills and wisdom of older generations to help homebound seniors live independently; and
- Creating pathways to employment and a pipeline of local leaders.

National service programs harness the energy and ingenuity of our nation's most valuable resource—our citizens—to address locally determined community needs while investing in rural and urban communities. A 2020 study by economists at ICF found that AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors offer a significant return on investment: for every one dollar that Congress appropriates to these signature programs, they return over \$17 in benefits to society, program members, and the government. By transforming the lives of those who serve, AmeriCorps programs are also a smart investment in our country's future. AmeriCorps expands opportunity and enables participants to gain marketable job skills in high-demand fields and pursue higher education, preparing a cohort of Americans to succeed in the workforce.

Supporting AmeriCorps is not just an investment in service—it's an investment in community resilience and American values. We are requesting a modest increase in overall AmeriCorps funding, with a targeted 5 percent increase for accounts that have shown the strongest demand and are best positioned for responsible growth, including AmeriCorps State and National, VISTA, RSVP, the Volunteer Generation Fund, Days of Service, and State Commission Support Grants. Our national service infrastructure must remain strong so communities can keep meeting urgent needs, programs can respond quickly when disaster strikes, and AmeriCorps can recruit, train, and deploy members and volunteers effectively in every state and territory.

We are aware of the difficult fiscal choices our country faces, but continuing to recognize and invest in the important work of AmeriCorps and its members will strengthen our nation. We urge you to support CNCS in FY 2027. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



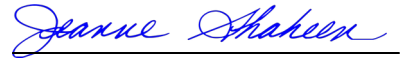
Martin Heinrich
United States Senator

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Andy Kim
United States Senator



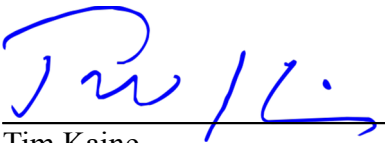
Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



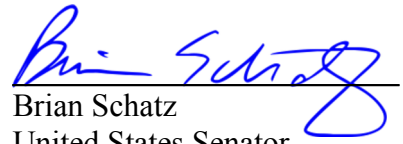
John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



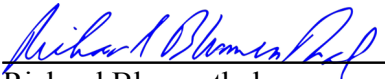
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



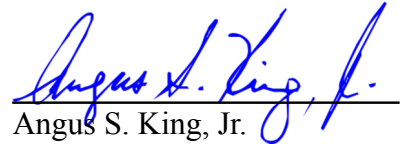
Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



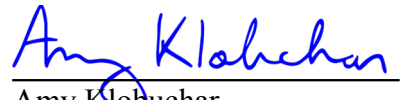
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



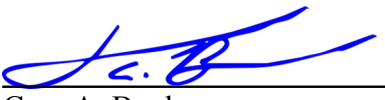
Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



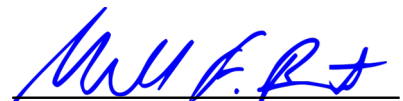
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator

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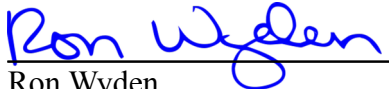
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Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



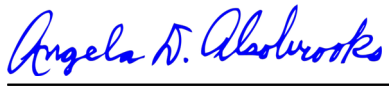
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



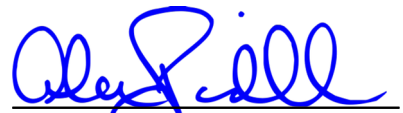
Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator



Angela D. Alsobrooks
United States Senator



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



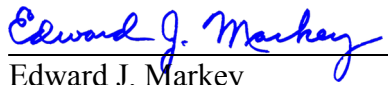
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



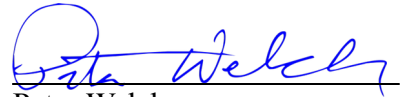
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

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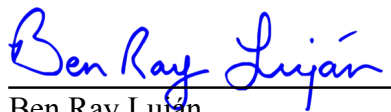
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Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator



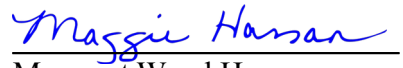
Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



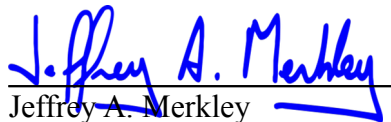
Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



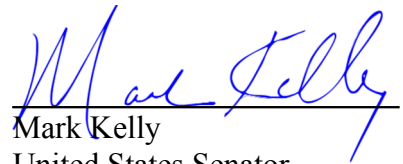
Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Mark Kelly
United States Senator