

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 17, 2009

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
SD-144  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
SH-123  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Alan B. Mollohan  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
Room H-310, The Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth HOB  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Mikulski, Ranking Member Shelby, Chairman Mollohan, and Ranking Member Wolf:

We commend you for demonstrating your strong support for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) in your respective versions of the FY10 funding bill for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

This year, both the House and Senate took important steps in removing specific restrictions on the activities of legal aid programs that receive LSC funds. As you know, legal aid programs have been severely impacted by the economic and housing crises. These organizations have been hit hard by interest rate drops since many depend heavily on the interest earned from the short-term deposits that lawyers hold in trust for clients (IOLTA accounts). In addition, cash-strapped state governments have been forced to curb their aid to legal services organizations. These funding setbacks are occurring while legal aid programs are seeing a record number of incoming requests from individuals across the country who are unable to afford a private attorney to handle civil matters related to foreclosures or matters related to unemployment.

Both the House-passed provision relating to attorneys' fees and the committee-passed Senate provision relating to non-federal funds will help to alleviate the impact of the funding shortfalls being faced by legal aid societies, and we urge you to include both provisions in any final conference agreement.

More significant of these two important changes, the Senate language relating to the restriction on use of non-federal funds will go farther towards improving the resources available to legal aid programs and permitting them to operate more efficiently. Access to private contributions has never been more crucial for these organizations, and the Senate language would remove some restrictions on the use of these funds. The Obama Administration has also urged Congress to lift

this restriction. In a June 16, 2009 "Statement of Administration Policy," the Administration expressed its concern that all citizens have access to legal representation and urged Congress to remove this part of the rider. In light of the vast need, we also urge you to adopt the House's funding level of \$440 million for LSC in FY10.

The work that LSC engages in has perhaps never been more crucial to our constituents and our communities than it is right now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Art Bluff

Howard L. Berman

George Miller

John Longrey

Joe Latta

Senol Neller

Joe E. Seaman

Michael Hunt

Chaka Fattah

Rosa d. DeLauro

David E. Bonior

Ricochet

Tammy Baldwin

Dennis J. Kucinich

Gene Israel

Wm. Lacy Clay

Donald Payne

Dorbin L. Watt

Janet Schatz  
Carolyn B. Maloney

Corine Burn  
[Signature]

Carolyn McCarty

Jim Moran

Paul Blumenthal

Russ V. Gutterman

Vivian Miller

Farm

Paul [Signature]

Alan E. Cilde

Cleora H. Norton

Danny K. Davis

Rufus [Signature]

Betty Sutton

Ann Van Vollen

Peter Welch

Rain M. Higdon

Archie

Miss Dingle

Dave Lockback

John Hall

Ainda J. Zandy

Bryant

Sandy Lewis

Ray C. Peters

Clare Pinner

Kendrick B. Moore

Steve Cohen

Bruce J. Praloy

Christopher P. Coy

Donna F. Edwards

Harold E. Jonnelly

Allyson J. Schwartz

Charles A. Jozaly

Bob Brady

Sam A. Stein

Stephen L.

Rich Lamm

Zoe Lofgren

John A.

John P. Sch...

Arden Davis

Ken A. Waxman

John F. Tierney

Alcee L. Hastings

Bob Filner

Maxine Baucus

Shelley Moore Capito

Maxine Waters

Mike Leavell

Elijah Cummings

Daniel Rostenkowski

Robert Wexler

Shelley Moore Capito

Elvin L. Engh

[Signature]

[Signature]

Zwette D. Clarke

Dan Strom

[Signature]

Rush Holt

[Signature]

Kurt Schwabe

Eddie Ben Johnson

Marcie L. Dudge

Tom Paullo

Dan Thoffer

Michael W. Mahadeo

Debbie Wasson

John B. Larson

Joe Courtney

[Signature]

[Signature]

Patrick O. Kennedy

Phil Hane

BRIAN HIGGINS

Jim M. Jones

Ken

Kathy Castor

Ken Klein

John Lewis

Michael E. McPherson

Jared Polis  
Mark Johnson

Pete Stark

Diana DeGette

Shirley

Lucille Roybal-Allard

Members signing letter (in order of appearance):

1. Rep. Adam B. Schiff
2. Rep. Howard L. Berman
3. Rep. George Miller
4. Rep. John Conyers, Jr.
5. Rep. Joe Sestak
6. Rep. Jerrold Nadler
7. Rep. José E. Serrano
8. Rep. Michael M. Honda
9. Rep. Chaka Fattah
10. Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro
11. Rep. Jesse L. Jackson, Jr.
12. Rep. William D. Delahunt
13. Rep. Tammy Baldwin
14. Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich
15. Rep. Steve Israel
16. Rep. Wm. Lacy Clay
17. Rep. Donald M. Payne
18. Rep. Melvin L. Watt
19. Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky
20. Rep. Corinne Brown
21. Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney
22. Rep. David Wu
23. Rep. Carolyn McCarthy
24. Rep. James P. Moran
25. Rep. Earl Blumenauer
26. Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez
27. Rep. Vic Snyder
28. Rep. Edolphus Towns
29. Rep. Brad Sherman
30. Rep. Dale E. Kildee
31. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
32. Rep. Danny K. Davis
33. Rep. Rick Boucher
34. Rep. Betty Sutton
35. Rep. Chris Van Hollen
36. Rep. Peter Welch
37. Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva
38. Rep. Paul W. Hodes
39. Rep. Mike Quigley
40. Rep. David Loebsack
41. Rep. John J. Hall
42. Rep. Linda T. Sánchez
43. Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
44. Rep. Sander M. Levin
45. Rep. Gary C. Peters
46. Rep. Chellie Pingree
47. Rep. Kendrick B. Meek
48. Rep. Steve Cohen



49. Rep. Bruce L. Braley
50. Rep. Christopher P. Carney
51. Rep. Donna F. Edwards
52. Rep. Gerald E. Connolly
53. Rep. Allyson Y. Schwartz
54. Rep. Charles A. Gonzalez
55. Rep. Robert A. Brady
56. Rep. James A. Himes
57. Rep. Stephen F. Lynch
58. Rep. Rick Larsen
59. Rep. Zoe Lofgren
60. Rep. John A. Yarmuth
61. Rep. John P. Sarbanes
62. Rep. Artur Davis
63. Rep. Henry A. Waxman
64. Rep. John F. Tierney
65. Rep. Alcee L. Hastings
66. Rep. Bob Filner
67. Rep. Maurice D. Hinchey
68. Rep. John D. Dingell
69. Rep. Maxine Waters
70. Rep. Nick J. Rahall, II
71. Rep. Elijah E. Cummings
72. Rep. David E. Price
73. Rep. Robert Wexler
74. Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee
75. Rep. Eliot L. Engel
76. Rep. Anthony D. Weiner
77. Rep. Peter A. DeFazio
78. Rep. Yvette D. Clarke
79. Rep. Gwen Moore
80. Rep. Eric J. J. Massa
81. Rep. Rush D. Holt
82. Rep. Pedro R. Pierluisi
83. Rep. Kurt Schrader
84. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson
85. Rep. Marcia L. Fudge
86. Rep. Thomas S.P. Perriello
87. Rep. Daniel B. Maffei
88. Rep. Michael H. Michaud
89. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz
90. Rep. John B. Larson
91. Rep. Joe Courtney
92. Rep. Lloyd Doggett
93. Rep. G. K. Butterfield
94. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy
95. Rep. Phil Hare
96. Rep. Brian Higgins
97. Rep. James P. McGovern

- 98. Rep. André Carson
- 99. Rep. Kathy Castor
- 100. Rep. Ron Klein
- 101. Rep. John Lewis
- 102. Rep. Michael E. McMahon
- 103. Rep. Jared Polis
- 104. Rep. Fortney Pete Stark
- 105. Rep. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
- 106. Rep. Diana DeGette
- 107. Rep. Glenn C. Nye
- 108. Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard