



101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 600 West, Washington, DC 20001

Arizona State University
California State University –
13 Member Schools
City University of New York –
City College
Florida International University
Georgia State University
Indiana University-Purdue
University Indianapolis
Morgan State University
North Carolina State University
Ohio State University
Portland State University
Temple University
Tennessee State University
University of Akron
University of Alabama -
Birmingham
University of Central Florida
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado – Denver
University of Houston
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Louisville
University of Memphis
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri –
Kansas City
University of New Mexico
University of New Orleans
Virginia Commonwealth
University
Wichita State University

March 11, 2009

The Honorable David Wu
U.S. House of Representatives
2338 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Wu:

On behalf of the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities (USU), thank you for championing the Learn and Serve higher education provision in the GIVE Act (H.R. 1388). We endorse the overall purpose of the legislation to encourage more Americans to serve and volunteer in areas of national need.

As anchors for our nation's cities, USU institutions are engaged in partnerships and outreach within our local communities and metropolitan areas, including community service and service learning. Many of our members are nationally recognized by the Carnegie classification for campus engagement as well as the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. These same institutions are also recipients of the Learn and Serve higher education program that is designed to increase the number of service opportunities for students within their local communities.

We are extremely pleased that the GIVE Act introduced by Chairman Miller and Representative Carolyn McCarthy contains USU's recommendations to strengthen the Learn and Serve higher education program, including increasing the authorization level for appropriations. USU also endorses the bill's intent to create Youth Engagement Zones, Campuses of Service, and additional corps programs.

Again, thank you for continuing to support urban universities and their mission of community engagement. We look forward to working with you on ensuring these provisions are included in the final version of the National Service bill passed by the 111th Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy L. Zimpher", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Nancy L. Zimpher
Chair, Coalition of Urban Serving Universities
President, University of Cincinnati