

March 31, 2011

The Honorable President Barack Obama

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Vice President Joseph Biden

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama and Vice President Biden:

The undersigned organizations, on behalf of our millions of members and supporters, write today to express our strong opposition to inclusion of any policy riders in legislation that will fund government operations for Fiscal Year 2011.

There have not been any hearings related to these extraordinarily far-reaching proposals. This back-door means of legislating does not allow for adequate debate about the merits of such sweeping policy changes, which deserve full deliberation by both chambers in the course of the normal legislative process.

The House of Representatives' Continuing Resolution (H.R. 1), which was voted on one month ago, included vast cuts and erected obstructions to critical public health, worker safety, consumer, civil rights, and environmental programs. We urge you to adopt a strict policy of rejecting all such provisions in subsequent 2011 spending bills, rather than negotiating one harmful rider against another.

We also have deep concerns about the level of the funding cuts, which we view as irresponsible and harmful. However, these damaging policy riders have no place in this budget legislation.

Sincerely,

350.org
9to5, National Association of Working Women
Advocates for Youth
AFL-CIO
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS Project Los Angeles
AIDS United
Air Alliance Houston

Alaska Community Action on Toxics
Alaska Wilderness League
Alliance for Justice
Alliance to End Hunger
American Association of University Professors
American Association of University Women
(AAUW)
American Bottom Conservancy

American Civil Liberties Union
 The American Federation of State, County, and
 Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
 American Humane Association
 American Medical Women's Association
 American Public Health Association
 American Rivers
 Americans for UNFPA
 The Arc of the United States
 Asian & Pacific Islander American Health
 Forum
 Association of Farmworker Opportunity
 Programs
 ATTIC, Inc.
 BCMW Community Services
 B.E. Cause
 Blue Green Alliance
 Bread for the World
 Break the Cycle
 Cascade AIDS Project
 Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, Inc.
 Center for Biological Diversity
 Center for Family Policy and Practice
 Center for Food Safety
 Center for Health and Gender Equity
 Center for Independent Living of South Florida,
 Inc.
 Center for Reproductive Rights
 Center for Science in the Public Interest
 Center for Women Policy Studies
 Children's Dental Health Project
 Citizens Against Coal Ash
 Citizens Against Ruining the Environment
 (CARE)
 Citizens' Environmental Coalition
 Clean New York
 Clean Water Action
 Coalition on Human Needs
 Coalition for Justice
 ColorOfChange.org
 Common Cause
 Community Advocates for Safe Emissions, Inc.
 (CASE)

Community Food Security Coalition
 Communications Workers of America
 Concerned Citizens of Giles County LLC
 Concerned Residents of Portland, NY + People
 Like Us (Crop Plus)
 Connecticut Association for Community Action
 (CAFCA)
 Courage Campaign
 DC Vote
 Defenders of Wildlife
 Democracy 21
 Disciples Justice Action Network
 Downwinders at Risk
 Earthjustice
 Earthworks
 Economic Policy Institute
 Environment America
 Environmental Integrity Project
 EQUAL Health Network
 Every Child Matters
 Falls Church Housing Corporation
 Families USA
 First State Community Action Agency
 Fresh Energy
 Friends of Hudson
 Friends of the Earth
 Georgians for Smart Energy Coalition
 Global Community Monitor
 Greenpeace
 Harm Reduction Coalition
 Health Care Without Harm
 HealthHIV
 HIV Prevention Justice Alliance
 Human Rights Campaign
 Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition
 Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health
 Somerville, MA
 International Center for Technology Assessment
 International Union, United Automobile,
 Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers
 of America (UAW)
 Ipas
 Kentucky Environmental Foundation

League of Conservation Voters
 League of Women Voters
 Legal Momentum
 Medical Students for Choice
 Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
 Montanans Against Toxic Burning
 Mountain Watershed Association
 National Abortion Federation
 National Association for the Advancement of
 Colored People (NAACP)
 National Association of Nurse Practitioners in
 Women's Health
 National Center for Transgender Equality
 National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
 National Council of Jewish Women
 National Council for Occupational Safety and
 Health
 National Employment Law Project
 National Health Law Program
 National Latina Institute for Reproductive
 Health
 National Minority AIDS Council
 National Organization for Women
 National Partnership for Women & Families
 National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
 National Network of Abortion Funds
 National Senior Citizens Law Center
 National WIC Association
 National Women's Conference Committee
 National Women's Law Center
 Natural Resource Defense Council
 North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light
 Northern California INALLIANCE
 Ocean Conservancy
 OMB Watch
 Our Bodies Ourselves
 The Partnership for Working Families
 People For the American Way
 Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health
 Population Action International
 ProgressNow
 Public Citizen
 Raising Women's Voices for the Health Care

We Need
 Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
 Religious Institute
 Rural Advancement Foundation International –
 USA (RAFI – USA)
 The Salvation Army Thrift Store and Service
 Center
 Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law
 Save the Dunes
 Save Our Rivers
 Service Employees International Union
 Sexuality Information and Education Council of
 the U.S. (SIECUS)
 Sierra Club
 Sisters of Mercy of the Americas Institute
 Justice Team
 Southern Illinois Continuum of Care Network
 Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social
 Justice
 Trust Women/Silver Ribbon Campaign
 Union of Concerned Scientists
 United Cerebral Palsy
 United for a Fair Economy
 Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention
 Services (UCHAPS)
 Virginia Poverty Law Center
 Voices for America's Children
 Voices for Illinois Children
 Wabash Area Development, Inc.
 World Wildlife Fund
 YWCA USA
 ZERO TO THREE

