

March 31, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Capitol S-321  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Capitol S-230  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Minority Leader McConnell:

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

