

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

May 1, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader of House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker of House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Hoyer, and Leader McCarthy:

We ask that you prioritize national service in any future coronavirus stimulus package. The nation faces an unprecedented period of turmoil as a public health crisis collides with an economic crisis. We must mobilize individuals to engage in national service opportunities now more than ever.

As we work to overcome this pandemic, we must invest in resources that will see our country through the crisis and its aftermath. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and its volunteers are on the front lines of the recovery effort, providing disaster assistance, educational opportunities, meal support and much more. In order for the nation to recover from this historic pandemic, we ask that you provide the CNCS with enough funding to hire an additional 500,000 volunteers for each of the fiscal years 2020 through 2022 and to lay the groundwork to expand this force as necessary to properly invest in the future and recovery of the nation.

In addition to CNCS volunteers, thousands of Peace Corps volunteers who have been recalled due to the coronavirus pandemic stand at the ready. We must capitalize on the service of these individuals and mobilize them to confront this crisis. Volunteers could be placed in the FEMA Corps or another AmeriCorps program and be immediately deployed to public and private nonprofit organizations as well as state and local agencies that are on the frontlines of the pandemic response. These volunteers could also form a specific COVID-19 response corps that would be solely focused on the public health response. For example, the Corps could be tasked with enacting a nation-wide contact tracing system to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

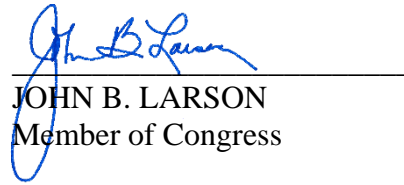
As funding requests abound for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, investing in the CNCS and reimagining the service of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers are investments in the continued rebuilding of the nation. We thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,



---

JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress



---

JOHN B. LARSON  
Member of Congress



---

DEAN PHILLIPS  
Member of Congress

JENNIFER WEXTON  
Member of Congress

MADELEINE DEAN  
Member of Congress

JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress

<sup>1</sup> Politico.com “Coronavirus could worsen the U.S. Forest Service's illegal marijuana problem” *Politico*, April 15, 2020, <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/cannabis/article/2020/04/coronavirus-could-worsen-the-us-forest-services-illegal-marijuana-problem-1914601>