

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 22, 2011

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Jerry Brown:

As Members of Congress from California, we urge you to work to solve California's state budget crisis in a way that doesn't further jeopardize California's communities. The lack of a balanced approach to our budget crisis has been a serious burden for many Californians. Any budget proposal that would significantly cut social services and force established community service organizations to close their doors would only add to that burden. Also, a proposal that threatens the quality of education for our children by shortening the K-12 school year and eliminating admissions to California institutions of higher learning leaves our state's most precious resource, our children, at a significant disadvantage. These cuts would negatively affect critical community serving organizations and our education system throughout the state of California.

The proposed new round of spending reductions would result in an additional 20% cut in funding for home caretakers, which would force family members who are already making admirable sacrifices to separate from their loved ones. This means disabled Californians will be placed under the care of the state where an additional \$100 million will be cut in services. In addition, a \$1.4 billion reduction in public school funds endangers the quality of K-12 education as does a \$100 million reduction in both the University of California and California State University systems. These cuts not only hurt our students but also cheat our country of a capable and prepared future workforce. These are just a few examples of how new budget cuts threaten some of our state's most vulnerable populations.

As Californians and Members of Congress, it is deeply concerning to see that some of the most resourceful centers in our communities will have to close down because of the lack of an acceptable budget plan. We understand the challenging decisions you face when deciding on these budget cuts and that in times like these, tough fiscal decisions are necessary. However, making the most vulnerable communities in California bear the burden of these decisions is unacceptable. We urge you to reflect on the consequences that the budget cuts will have on vital programs in our great state of California. Thank you for your time and attention to this critically important matter.

Sincerely,


Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress


Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



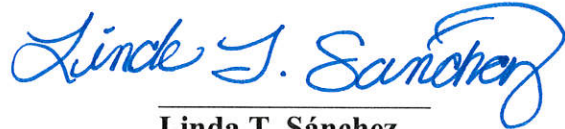
Laura Richardson
Member of Congress



Pete Stark
Member of Congress



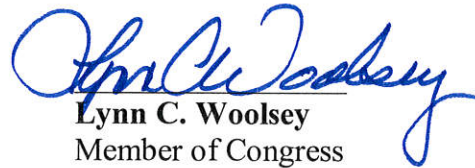
Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



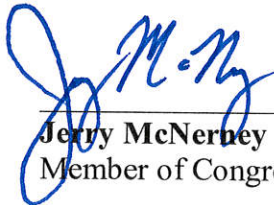
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Lynn C. Woolsey
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress