

**Stephen N. Zack**  
President

**AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

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April 8, 2011

Dear Representatives and Senators:

As leaders of the fifty state bars, local bar associations, the national bars of color, and the American Bar Association, we respectfully request that Congress maintain level funding of \$420 million for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011, and that Congress grant the Administration's request to fund LSC at \$450 million for Fiscal Year 2012.

LSC is the single largest provider of civil legal aid in the nation, distributing 95% of its federal appropriation to 136 legal aid programs, with over 900 offices, nationwide; at least one LSC grantee is present in each of the fifty states. Those benefiting from LSC-funded programs are among the most vulnerable Americans, including veterans returning from combat, domestic violence victims, those coping with the after-effects of natural disasters, families involved in child custody disputes, people with disabilities, and individuals undergoing foreclosures or other housing issues. Due to economic conditions, the number of people who qualify for legal services is at an all-time high; over 63 million Americans, including 22 million children, now are eligible for civil legal assistance.

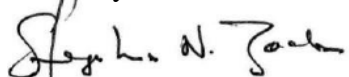
With the current recession, adequate funding for LSC is more critical than ever.

Already, one in two eligible clients seeking assistance from an LSC-funded legal aid program is turned away due to lack of resources. Other sources of funding for legal assistance programs have also diminished; legal aid revenue from Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts has decreased due to low interest rates, and state and private contributors are also struggling with budget issues in the current economic climate. Furthermore, pro bono efforts would diminish without robust LSC funding; LSC provides the framework and infrastructure for pro bono efforts and needs sufficient resources to continue.


The need for legal aid services already far exceeds the funding provided to LSC, and the number of people in poverty needing LSC help continues to grow. Maintaining no less than the current level of \$420 million for FY11 and supporting LSC at \$450 million for FY12 are vital to ensuring equal justice for all Americans regardless of their economic status.

Thank you very much for your consideration and your continued support of the Legal Services Corporation.


Sincerely,



Stephen N. Zack  
President  
American Bar Association



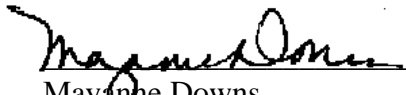
Alyce Manley Spruell  
President  
Alabama State Bar



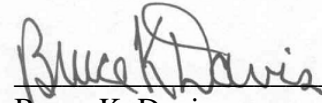
Jason A. Weiner  
President  
Alaska Bar Association



Alan P. Bayham, Jr.  
President  
State Bar of Arizona



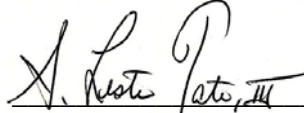
Maylene Downs  
President  
Florida Bar



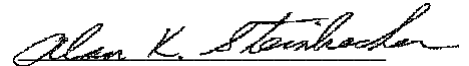
Bruce K. Davis  
President  
Kentucky Bar Association



Jim L. Julian  
President  
Arkansas Bar Association



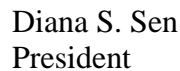
Lester Tate  
President  
State Bar of Georgia



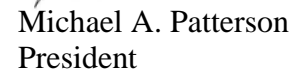
Alan K. Steinbrecher  
President  
Los Angeles County Bar  
Association




Vincent A. Eng  
President  
National Asian Pacific American  
Bar Association



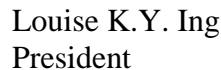
Diana S. Sen  
President  
Hispanic National Bar Association



Michael A. Patterson  
President  
Louisiana State Bar Association



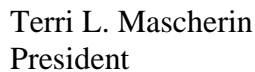
William N. Hebert  
President  
State Bar of California




Louise K.Y. Ing  
President  
Hawaii State Bar Association



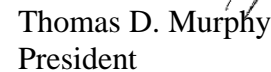
David S. Wakelin  
President  
Maine State Bar Association



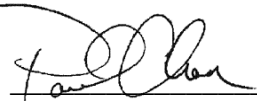
Terri L. Mascherin  
President  
Chicago Bar Association



Deborah A. Ferguson  
President  
Idaho State Bar



Thomas D. Murphy  
President  
Maryland State Bar Association



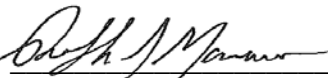
Paul H. Chan  
President  
Colorado Bar Association



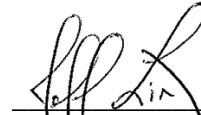
Mark D. Hassakis  
President  
Illinois State Bar Association



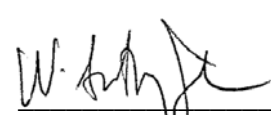
Denise Squillante  
President  
Massachusetts Bar Association



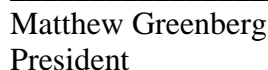
Ralph J. Monaco  
President  
Connecticut Bar Association



Jeffrey A. Lind  
President  
Indiana State Bar Association



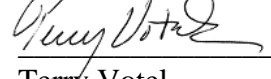
W. Anthony Jenkins  
President  
State Bar of Michigan



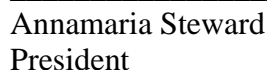
Matthew Greenberg  
President  
Delaware State Bar Association



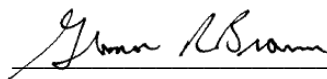
Frank J. Carroll  
President  
Iowa State Bar Association



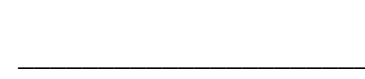
Terry Votel  
President  
Minnesota State Bar Association



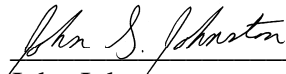
Annamaria Steward  
President  
Bar Association of the District of  
Columbia

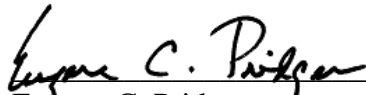


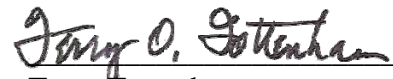
Glenn R. Braun  
President  
Kansas Bar Association



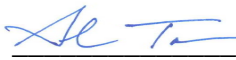
Nina Stubblefield Tollison  
President  
Mississippi Bar

  
John Johnston  
President  
Missouri Bar

  
Eugene C. Pridgen  
President  
North Carolina Bar Association

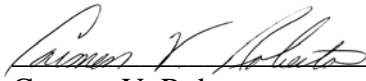
  
Terry Tottenham  
President  
State Bar of Texas

Joseph Sullivan  
President  
State Bar of Montana


  
Sandra L. Tabor  
President  
State Bar Association of North  
Dakota

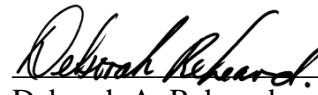
  
Robert L. Jeffs  
President  
Utah State Bar


Demetrius Shelton  
President  
National Bar Association

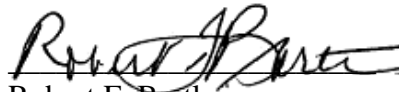
  
Carmen V. Roberto  
President  
Ohio State Bar Association


Therese M. Corsones  
President  
Vermont Bar Association

  
Patty Ferguson-Bohnee  
President-elect  
National Native American Bar  
Association

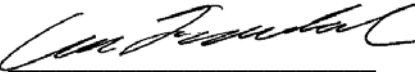
  
Deborah A. Reheard  
President  
Oklahoma Bar Association

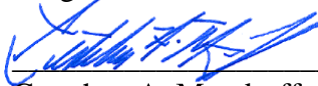
  
Irving M. Blank  
President  
Virginia State Bar

  
Robert F. Bartle  
President  
Nebraska State Bar Association

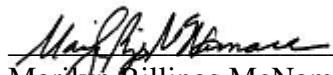
  
Stephen Piucci  
President  
Oregon State Bar

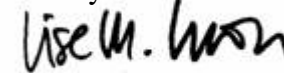
  
Steven G. Toole  
President  
Washington State Bar Association

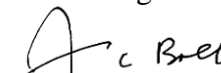
  
Cam Ferenbach  
President  
State Bar of Nevada

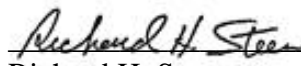
  
Gretchen A. Mundorff  
President  
Pennsylvania Bar Association

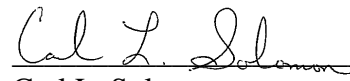
Letitia Neese Chafin  
President  
West Virginia State Bar

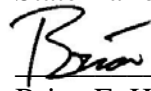
  
Marilyn Billings McNamara  
President  
New Hampshire Bar Association

  
Lise M. Iwon  
President  
Rhode Island Bar Association

  
Jim Boll  
President  
State Bar of Wisconsin

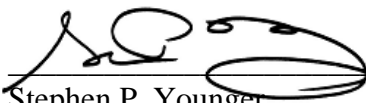
  
Richard H. Steen  
President  
State Bar of New Jersey


  
Carl L. Solomon  
President  
South Carolina Bar

  
Brian E. Hultman  
President  
Wyoming State Bar

Hans Voss  
President-elect  
State Bar of New Mexico

Richard Casey  
President  
State Bar of South Dakota

  
Stephen P. Younger  
President  
New York State Bar Association

  
Sam D. Elliott  
President  
Tennessee Bar Association