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May 10, 2001

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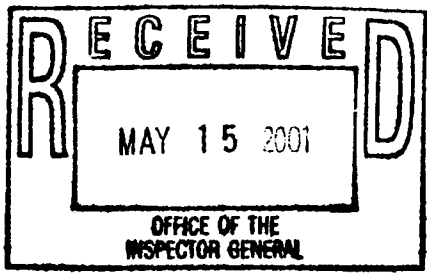

The Honorable Luise Jordan
Inspector General
Corporation for National Service
2101 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525

Dear Ms. Jordan:

The President's Fiscal Year 2002 Budget requests no funding for AmeriCorps member education awards. This contrasts with funding requests for the Trust Fund in previous years that ranged from $70 to $90 million.

The Corporation for National Service's budget submission states that no new authority is required in fiscal year 2002 for the Trust Fund costs associated with new AmeriCorps members because of changes to policies and estimating procedures. And in testimony during our Subcommittee hearing on April 25, 2001, the Corporation's Acting CEO, Ms. Wendy Zenker and Deputy CFO Bill Anderson described a change in the method of estimating the Trust's funding requests. However, questions remain as to whether or not the fiscal year 2002 request adequately provides for awards that AmeriCorps members will earn.

We request that you review the Corporation's methodology for calculating the FY 2002 Trust Fund budget authority request and the detailed documentation and analysis that supports the decision to request no additional funding for program year 2002 service. Please include in your response any advice you may have as to the propriety of the methodology and the potential impact on the Trust Fund of zero funding in FY 2002 for AmeriCorps member service awards.

Please respond to this request by the close of business, June 7, 2001. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact our Subcommittee staff, Cheh Kim at 202-224-7858 and Gabrielle Batkin at 202-224-3106.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kit Bond

Christopher S. "Kit" Bond
Chairman, Subcommittee on VA,
HUD, and Independent Agencies

Barbara A. Mikulski

Barbara A. Mikulski
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on VA,
HUD and Independent Agencies