

16 Republican Representatives wrote a letter (July 29, 2008), initiated by Rep. Peter King, to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Leader Boehner, which strongly urged the addition of countercyclical spending to aid state and local governments. The Representatives support state fiscal relief in the form of a temporary increase to the federal Medicaid match (FMAP).

The 16 co-signers are below:

1. Mike Castle (DE)
2. Charles Dent (PA)
3. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL)
4. Mario Diaz-Balart (FL)
5. JoAnn Emerson (MO)
6. Jim Gerlach (PA)
7. Peter King (NY)
8. Randy Kuhl (NY)
9. Frank LoBiondo (NJ)
10. John McHugh (NY)
11. Jon Porter (NV)
12. Jim Ramstad (MN)
13. Thomas Reynolds (NY)
14. Chris Smith (NJ)
15. James Walsh (NY)
16. Don Young (AK)

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

July 29, 2008

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

The Honorable John Boehner
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

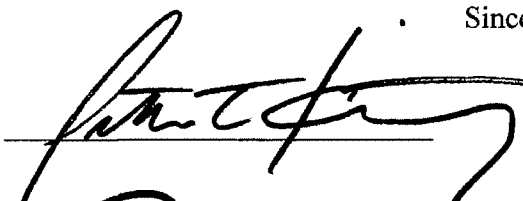
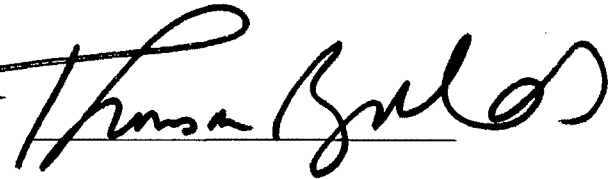


Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Boehner,

Thank you for working quickly and successfully to adopt an economic stimulus package. The provisions included in the package – including rebate payments, changes to depreciation rules for businesses, and policies to help homeowners avoid foreclosure – will all help to strengthen our economy during this period of downturn.

As other measures are considered in Congress, however, we strongly urge you to support the addition of countercyclical spending to aid state and local governments. Congress took this successful approach during the 2002-2003 economic downturn, temporarily increasing the federal Medicaid match (FMAP) as well as general funding aid to states. We feel a similar approach is needed now to avert cuts in health care, education, aid to local governments, and other critical services. We seek your support for state fiscal relief in the form of an FMAP increase. The National Governors' Association (NGA), the National Conference of States Legislatures (NCSL), and many respected economists are actively promoting state fiscal relief as a key component of a successful stimulus package.

The House has made great progress in fashioning economic stimulus relief. State fiscal relief in the form of a temporary increase to the FMAP will strengthen further the goals of effective economic stimulus.

Sincerely,

Jim Ronald
Jan C. Pol

James J. Walsh

John R. McHugh
John Emerson

Mike Gottle

Charles W. Dunt

Robert J. Brent

Chris Smith

John A. LeBund

Don Young

Randy Kuhl