

THE REV. CHARLES STEPHEN CURRIE, JR.

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August 29, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare to address the nation regarding unemployment and the deficit, I write to urge the following:

- That you demand that Congress approve the Urban Jobs Act of 2011.

That you urge the new deficit Super Committee to adopt the following principles, as advanced by the Half In Ten Campaign:

- Protect low-income families and programs that connect Americans to opportunity.
- Include increased revenues by ensuring millionaires, oil companies and other profit-rich corporations pay their fair share.
- Leave room for investments that put people back to work, and extend jobless benefits for those hit hardest in the recession.

And that you adopt the three principles for private job growth outlined by the Center for American Progress¹:

- Investing in our nation's infrastructure through existing channels and a new infrastructure bank.
- Speeding the housing recovery by reducing the flood of foreclosed homes on the market.
- Supporting the retrofitting of homes and businesses to make them more energy efficient.

Strong leadership is needed from the White House to aid those most deeply impacted by the recession that you inherited in 2009. It is regrettable that political opposition - instead of principled moral leadership - has fueled opposition to policies you have advanced which have had the impact of slowing our national recovery.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Chuck Currie

¹ http://www.americanprogressaction.org/issues/2011/08/private_sector_jobs.html

