

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 18, 2010

Dear Madam Speaker, Majority Leader, and Majority Whip,

We write to urge you to bring the Local Jobs for America Act (H.R. 4812) to the floor as soon as possible and ask for your consideration of this legislation as part of the reconciliation instructions for the FY 2011 Budget Resolution.

We received encouraging news in last Friday's jobs report, the U.S. economy created 290,000 jobs in April, this is largest number of new jobs created in four years and the fourth consecutive month of job growth. But we still have a long way to go. We will not be able to reverse overnight the two years of recession and a decade of declining economic security for the middle class in our country. It will take time to replace the nearly 8 million jobs that have been lost.

While the national unemployment rate hovers around 9.9 percent, unemployment among African Americans is at 16.7 percent and Latinos at 12.4 percent. These figures illustrate that our economic recovery has been uneven and many communities continue to suffer disproportionately.

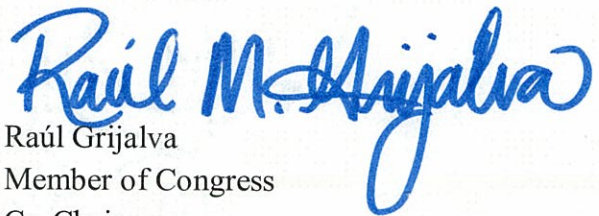
We believe the Local Jobs for America Act is one piece of a multifaceted strategy to stimulate the economy, create jobs and respond to the needs of the chronically unemployed and underemployed, as well as populations who are living below the poverty line.

We believe now is the time to act and request a meeting with the House leadership to discuss how we can move this bill forward.

Sincerely,



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress
Chair
Congressional Black Caucus



Raúl Grijalva
Member of Congress
Co-Chair
Congressional Progressive Caucus

Lynn Woolsey

Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress
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Phil Hare

Phil Hare
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Keith Ellison

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