

## FOSTERING REGIONAL ECONOMIC PROSPERITY



metrochamber

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2012 CHAIR

John Frisch

Cornish &amp; Carey Newmark Knight Frank

1ST VICE CHAIR

Martha Clark Lofgren  
Brewer Lofgren LLP

2ND VICE CHAIR

James Beckwith  
Five Star Bank

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

Gregory Eldridge  
CH2MHill

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kathy McKim  
AT&T

JOBS &amp; BUSINESS GROWTH

Bill Yee  
Western Contract

MARKETING &amp; COMMUNICATIONS

Christi Black  
Edelman Public Relations Worldwide

PROGRAMS &amp; EVENTS

Maggie Townsley  
ICF International

PUBLIC POLICY

Stan Van Vleck  
Van Vleck Ranch

SMALL BUSINESS

Tim Cahill  
Charles C. Bell, Inc.

AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES

Ashli Abhat  
Bank of America Merrill LynchElisabeth Brinton  
SMUDGordon Fowler  
3fold CommunicationsChristopher Johnson  
The Johnson Group, Inc.Ann Madden Rice  
UC Davis Medical Center

METRO PAC

Ardle Zahedani  
St. Anthon Farmers

LEGAL COUNSEL

Chris Delfino  
Downey Brand LLP

TREASURER

Warren Kashlwagi  
Crowe Horwath

PRESIDENT &amp; CEO

Roger Niello  
Sacramento Metro Chamber

May 15, 2012

The Honorable John Garamendi  
United States House of Representatives  
22B Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dan Lungren  
United States House of Representatives  
2313 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Doris Matsui  
United States House of Representatives  
222 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Preventing Closure of Job Corps Centers**

Dear Representatives Garamendi, Lungren, and Matsui,

On behalf of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to request your support for the prevention of Job Corps center closures – particularly in the 6-county Sacramento region. The Job Corps program is vital to our community, and the loss of Job Corps centers could have far-reaching negative impacts to our economy, both at the local and the national level.

The Sacramento Metro Chamber is the largest, oldest and most prominent voice of business in the greater Sacramento area. Representing over 2,000 member businesses and business organizations in the six-county Sacramento region, the Sacramento Metro Chamber serves as the region's leading proponent of regional cooperation and primary advocate on issues affecting business, economic development and quality of life.

Job Corps works with employers. These employers, in turn, actively work with their local centers to customize training to meet their needs in 100 different trades in 11 major industries. Few other programs offer local employers a comparable opportunity to shape curricula in so many occupations. Small businesses in our communities work closely with their Job Corps centers because these centers reliably produce skilled and responsible workers who can contribute to a small business' growth.

Most importantly, Job Corps works. It is one of our nation's most effective career preparation program for economically disadvantaged youth ages 16 to 24 that might otherwise cost our communities and taxpayers billions of dollars over the course of their lifetimes. Job Corps reverses that drain, because 85 percent of graduates secure a job, enter higher education, or enlist in the military.

Again, on behalf of the Metro Chamber, I am writing to request your support for the prevention of Job Corps center closures – particularly in the 6-county Sacramento region.

Sincerely,

Roger Niello  
President & CEO

Cc: Stan Van Vleck, Vice-Chair for Public Policy  
Alex Taghavian, Chair, Workforce Development and Education Committee  
David Butler, Vice-Chair, Workforce Development and Education Committee  
Dennis M. Rogers, Sr. V.P., Public Policy and Economic Development