The Honorable Marcy C. Kaptur  
2186 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kaptur:

The undersigned organizations strongly oppose proposals that would politicize the charitable nonprofit and philanthropic community by repealing or weakening current federal tax law protections that prohibit 501(c)(3) organizations from endorsing, opposing, or contributing to political candidates.

Nonpartisanship is a cornerstone principle that has strengthened the public’s trust of the charitable community. In exchange for enjoying tax-exempt status and the ability to receive tax-deductible contributions, 501(c)(3) organizations – charitable nonprofits, including religious congregations, and foundations – agree to not engage in “any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.”

That provision of law protects the integrity and independence of charitable nonprofits and foundations. It shields the entire 501(c)(3) community against the rancor of partisan politics so the charitable community can be a safe haven where individuals of all beliefs come together to solve community problems free from partisan divisions. It screens out doubts and suspicions regarding ulterior partisan motives of charitable organizations, as undoubtedly would occur if even just a few charitable organizations engaged in partisan politics. Nonpartisan credibility is critical to the ability of 501(c)(3) organizations to work with elected officials of all parties at the local, state, and federal levels to address community needs.

Charitable nonprofits, including religious congregations, are free to speak on important matters of the day and advocate on public policy issues and legislation. Private foundations, while barred from most lobbying activities, are free to engage in public debates, promote public education efforts, and fund a wide range of issue-focused activities. The relevant language in Section 501(c)(3) merely prohibits partisan campaign intervention, defined to include endorsing or opposing candidates for public office, publishing or distributing statements for or against candidates, or using tax-deductible and other resources to support partisan campaign activities.

We are united in opposing any and all efforts to weaken or repeal this longstanding protection in the federal tax code (sometimes called the Johnson Amendment) that President Eisenhower signed into law in 1954. Weakening the law by allowing leaders of individual 501(c)(3) entities to endorse candidates for public office and engage in some partisan electioneering activities would damage the integrity and effectiveness of all charitable organizations and spawn litigation as innovative partisans seek to expand gray areas in the proposed legislation. Repealing the Johnson Amendment, an approach promoted by the President and some in Congress, would damage the federal Treasury as people take tax deductions for political contributions they could then funnel through charitable nonprofits, undercut fair elections by providing a loophole to avoid campaign contribution disclosure laws, and empower politicians to exert pressure for access to foundation assets and charitable funds for their own partisan campaigns rather than for the public good.
We urge you to join us in opposing efforts to weaken and/or repeal the current law that for six decades has successfully protected the integrity and effectiveness of charitable nonprofits and foundations by keeping them apart from partisan politics.

Respectfully,

Ohio

Action for Children Columbus
Affecting Community Dayton
Transformation d/b/a Oasis House
Aikey Foundation, Inc. Wellington
Akron Community Akron
Foundation
Arthur Morgan Institute for Yellow
Community Solutions
Springs
Bethany House Services Cincinnati
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sidney
Shelby & Darke County Bryan
Bryan Area Foundation
Business for Peace Blacklick
Community Development
Foundation (B4P
CODEFOUND)
Cancer Patient Services Findlay
Circle of Peace International Marietta
City Year Columbus Columbus
Clark County Historical Society Springfield
Society
Cleveland Zoological Society Cleveland
Cogswell Hall, Inc. Cleveland
Columbus School for Girls Columbus
Community Foundation of Elyria
Lorain County
Community Kitchen Columbus
Corporation for Findlay Cincinnati
Market
Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Lima
Development
Crime Victim Services Lima
Daybreak Dayton
Dayton Foundation Dayton
Disability Foundation, Inc. Dayton
Dobama Theatre Cleveland Heights
Dublin Arts Council Dublin
E&L Company Youngstown
Early Childhood Resource Canton
Center
Easter Seals Serving Greater Cincinnati
Edheads Hilliard
Equitas Health Columbus
Far West Center Westlake
Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center Chagrin Falls
Food For Thought Toledo
Franciscan Earth Literacy Center Tiffin
Friends of the Cultural Arts Columbus
Center
Glacity Theatre Collective
Goodwill Columbus Columbus
Green Hills Community West Liberty
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cincinnati
Habitat for Humanity, Mid-
Ohio Columbus
Hannah's Treasure Chest Centerville
Harmony Project Columbus
Havir, Inc. Athens
Homeport Columbus
House of New Hope Saint
Louisville
Housing Research & Columbus
Advocacy Center
Humility of Mary Housing Cleveland
Jarvis Gibson Foundation
Jewish Federation of Cleveland
Kendal at Granville Granville
Kings Local Food Pantry
Lake Erie Swimming
LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland
LifeSpan Hamilton
Mobile Meals of Toledo, Inc. Toledo
Morino Ventures, LLC Rocky River
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Letter in Support of Nonpartisanship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UDPATED April 27, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multifaith Campus Alliance of the Miami Valley</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark-Granville Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Newark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Profit Evolution</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Association of Foodbanks</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations - OANO</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio CDC Association</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Domestic Violence Network</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Environmental Council</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio League For Nursing</td>
<td>North Olmsted Bridgeport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio Valley Recovery Inc.</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Health Organization</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perry County Soccer League</td>
<td>Crooksville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philanthropy Ohio</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred Properties, Inc.</td>
<td>Toledo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent Blindness, Ohio Affiliate</td>
<td>Bratenahl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sears-Swatland Family Foundation</td>
<td>Tiffin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds of Hope</td>
<td>Delphos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisters of St. Francis</td>
<td>Tiffin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth</td>
<td>Delphos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Francis Spirituality Center</td>
<td>Tiffin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stonewall Columbus</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StriveTogether</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Central Ohio Symphony</td>
<td>Delaware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Community Foundation for Crawford County</td>
<td>Bucyrus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dakota Center</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Foodbank, Inc.</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Gathering Place</td>
<td>Beachwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The George Gund Foundation</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Problem Gambling Network of Ohio</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The SINDISA Fund</td>
<td>Hillsboro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The UpTown Association, Inc.</td>
<td>Toledo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toledo Ballet</td>
<td>Toledo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toledo Community Foundation Transitions, Inc.</td>
<td>Zanesville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Disability Services</td>
<td>Akron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way of Gallia County</td>
<td>Gallipolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way of Greater Cleveland</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way of Medina County</td>
<td>Medina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way of Summit County</td>
<td>Akron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way of Williams County</td>
<td>Bryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Health Care Action Network of Ohio</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VSA Ohio</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Side Catholic Center</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WomenSafe</td>
<td>Chardon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Rises Against All Odds</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA Alliance</td>
<td>Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA Columbus</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA Dayton</td>
<td>Dayton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA Greater Cincinnati</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YWCA Hamilton Ohio serving Butler County</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Warren</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### National Organizations

- Abila
- Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education, Inc.
- AdoptAClassroom.org
- Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
- America Solidaria U.S.
- American Alliance of Museums
- American Association of Anatomists
- American Association of Physics Teachers
- American Association of Teachers of German
- American Atheists
- American Bladder Cancer Society
- American Board of Venous & Lymphatic Medicine
- American Brass Chamber Music Association
- American Conference of Academic Deans
American Heart Association
American Historical Association
American Jewish Committee
American Medical Association Foundation
American Physiological Society
American Podiatric Medical Association, Inc.
American Red Cross
Americans for the Arts
Americans Promoting Study Abroad
Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Amyloidosis Foundation
Animal Legal Defense Fund
Annie E. Casey Foundation
Anti-Defamation League
Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center
Association for Jewish Outreach Professionals
Association of American Colleges and Universities
Association of Art Museum Directors
Association of Direct Response Fundraising Counsel
Association of Fundraising Professionals
Association of Immunization Managers
Association of Nature Center Administrators
Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice
Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty
Baptist Women in Ministry
Barr Foundation
BoardSource
Brady Campaign and Center to Prevent Gun Violence
Camp Fire
Campion Foundation
Catholic Charities USA
Catholic Mobilizing Network
Center for Health, Environment & Justice
Center for Inquiry
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Citizen Schools
CleanSlateNow
Commonwealth Fund
Council on Foundations
Council for Global Equality
Dance USA
Dementia Society, Inc.
Democracy 21
Destination & Travel Foundation
Dietel Partners, LLC
Disability Rights Advocacy Fund
Easter Seals
Ecology Project International
Engineering Conferences International
Episcopal Relief & Development
Feed the Children
Feeding America
Fidesco USA
Food & Water Watch
Ford Foundation
Free Press
Girl Scouts of the USA
Girls Inc.
Global Integrity
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
Grantmakers for Effective Organizations
Greater Nonprofits
GuideStar
Habitat for Humanity International
Harbor Compliance
HawkWatch International
Hindu American Foundation
Histiocytosis Foundation
Horizons National
Human Science Institute
Independent Sector
International Essential Tremor Foundation
International Hearing Dog, Inc.
International Performing Arts for Youth
International Primate Protection League
Issue One
Jessie Ball DuPont Fund
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Federations of North America Leadership USA
League of American Orchestras
League of Women Voters
Leukemia Research Foundation
Local Learning: The National Network for Folk Arts in Education
Lumina Foundation
Lymphoma Foundation of America
Migraine Research Foundation
Mentors International
Morino Ventures, LLC
National 4-H Council
National Alliance of Community Economic Development
National Association of Charitable Gift Planners
National Association of Health Data Organizations

Ohio
National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA)
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi
National Association of Watch and Collectors
The Michael J. Fox Foundation
National Association for Shoplifting Prevention
The Ocean Foundation
NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness
The Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy
The United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society
National Center for Appropriate Technology
The Voter Participation Center
National Center for Fire and Life Safety
TIDES
National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome
Unemployment Services Trust
National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy
Union for Reform Judaism
National Dance Education Organization
Volunteers in Medicine
National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence
Volunteers of America
National Council of Behavioral Health
Voto Latino
National Council of Churches
Wallace Global Fund
National Council of Nonprofits
World Day of Prayer USA
National Council of Tribes
World Neighbors, Inc.
National Dance Education Organization
Youth Services America
National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence
YWCA USA
National Human Services Assembly
The George Gund Foundation
National Indian Child Welfare Association
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi
National LGBTQ Task Force
The Michael J. Fox Foundation
National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation
The Ocean Foundation
National Organization for Albinism and Hypopigmentation
The Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
National Runaway Safeline
The United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society
National Safe Place Network
The Voter Participation Center
National Tongan American Society
TIDES
NEO Law Group
Unemployment Services Trust
North American Bramble Growers Research Foundation
Union for Reform Judaism
OPERA America
Volunteers in Medicine
Partnership for America's Children
Volunteers of America
Pension Fund of the Christian Church
Voto Latino
Philanthropy for Active Civic Engagement
Wallace Global Fund
Project Wet Foundation
Where Itracts Without Borders
Project Managers Without Borders
World Day of Prayer USA
Public Citizen
World Neighbors, Inc.
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
World Neighbors, Inc.
Secular Coalition for America
World Neighbors, Inc.
Senior Executives Association
World Neighbors, Inc.
Seva Foundation
World Neighbors, Inc.
Skillman Foundation
World Neighbors, Inc.
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
World Neighbors, Inc.
Smith’s Food and Drug
World Neighbors, Inc.
Social Velocity
World Neighbors, Inc.
The Arc of the United States
The Orbis Foundation
The Aspen Institute
The Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc.
The Commonwealth Fund
The Dibble Institute
The Educational Foundation of America
The George Gund Foundation
The George Gund Foundation
The Michael J. Fox Foundation
The Michael J. Fox Foundation
The Ocean Foundation
The Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
The United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society
The Voter Participation Center
TIDES
Unemployment Services Trust
Union for Reform Judaism
Volunteers in Medicine
Volunteers of America
Voto Latino
Wallace Global Fund
Where Itracts Without Borders
World Day of Prayer USA
World Neighbors, Inc.
Youth Services America
YWCA USA