From: Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits
To: Melisaa;
Subject: Last Week to Send a Message to Congress
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Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits

Act Now to Preserve the Charitable Giving Incentive

Sign On Today: Super-Committee Needs to Hear From You

The Alliance and our partners in the National Council of Nonprofits have gathered well over 3,000 signatures of nonprofit organizations on a national letter urging Congress to preserve the incentive for charitable contributions for all donors. If your organization is one of the 200-plus nonprofits in Arizona who are on the list, THANK YOU! If not, **this is your last chance** to stand up and be a leader for the sector on this issue. Check that: **be a leader for the communities you serve**. That is who suffers if your contributions decline.

Send a strong message to Congress that individual donations are a critical funding source for your organization, which means they must preserve the incentive to make contributions through the federal tax deduction for charitable giving. That is the question pending before the "super-committee" charged with making recommendations to Congress regarding deficit reduction. Are you going to let Congress make it even more difficult for nonprofits to raise the **82% of their donations** they receive from individuals? If you exercise your power and life up the voice, you can help us preserve the deduction.

If you are not sure whether your nonprofits has signed on to the letter, check the list of organizations on the National Council's website. If your organization is not on the list, you need to sign up today. The deadline is near for the Congressional super-committee's deficit reduction plan to be delivered to Congress. We want members of the super-committee, including **Arizona's Sen. Jon Kyl**, to hear that the charitable tax deduction for individuals is a key component of our ability to meet critical community needs, especially during a time of government funding cuts. This is not the time to complicate the decision for donors who want to support our work to help families in need, support education, cultivate arts and culture (which contribute to economic development), and generally ensure a quality of life that is the cornerstone of our work as nonprofits.

Our nonprofits are making a difference, and you can be part of this bandwagon by following these these three easy steps:

1. Read more about the issue. You can read the *Nonprofit Quarterly* article in which **National Council of Nonprofits** CEO Tim Delaney explains the strategy behind the current campaign to protect the charitable giving incentive and presents the urgency for all nonprofits to amplify our voices collectively today. As Delaney warns: *"if the Supercommittee includes the charitable deduction with changes to other deductions, it will be too late for nonprofits to ask for reconsideration. There will be no second chances. We must lift our voices now or suffer the consequences of our silence tomorrow."*
2. Then, add your nonprofit's name to the national nonprofit community's letter to Congress. By signing on, you **lift the voices of millions of citizens** in communities across the country who rely upon nonprofits and the resources provided to them through charitable donations.
3. In the comments section of the letter, **tell us how individual donations make a difference** in your ability to serve people in your community. So far, we have received compelling testimonials that put the face on this story; several were used in a letter submitted to Sen. Kyl earlier this month.

Again, we **applaud the Arizona nonprofit community** for stepping up for the communities they serve and reminding members of the U.S. Congress that their leadership on this issue is needed to do the same.

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