

**+** **AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®**  
Fighting for Air

April 18, 2012

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The Honorable Robert Corker  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Corker:

I am writing to state the American Lung Association's strong opposition to the amendments you offered regarding postal rates to S. 1789, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Postal Service Act of 2012 and urge you to withdraw them. These amendments would significantly increase the American Lung Association's postage costs and reduce our donations by millions of dollars. As a result of these amendments, the Lung Association and other nonprofits would be forced to not only cut back on the number of pieces it mails but it would greatly impact our abilities to deliver key programs and services across this nation.

The additional costs levied against the American Lung Association as a result of your amendments would come right out of our net income and ability to deliver programs – including funding research to improve treatments and find cures for the more than 35 million Americans with chronic lung diseases; giving children the tools they need to manage their asthma so that they can stay healthy in school and be ready to learn; fighting for healthy air and keeping kids from smoking. The American Lung Association – like other nonprofits – would be forced to reduce mail volume, which will just reinforce the Postal Service's downward spiral. These amendments could force some nonprofits out of using direct mail as a community and fundraising vehicle.

Congress has authorized special nonprofit rates for more than fifty years, and has repeatedly reaffirmed that policy. The policy still makes good sense. Reduced postage rates enable the American Lung Association and other nonprofit organizations, including churches and faith organizations, to provide a critical role in our society.

The American Lung Association asks you to withdraw your amendments.

Sincerely,



Charles D. Connor  
President and CEO

Cc: Senator Joe Lieberman  
Senator Susan Collins  
Senator Tom Carper  
Senator Scott Brown  
Senator Harry Reid  
Senator Mitch McConnell