May 18, 2011

The Honorable Denny Rehberg  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
On Labor, Health and Human Services  
and Education  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Subcommittee  
On Labor, Health and Human Services  
and Education  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rehberg and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you draft your Fiscal Year 2012 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill, we request that you include $125.9 million for Title VI International Education and Foreign Language programs. Title VI programs have had a tremendous impact on our nation over the years by developing a strong foundation in international education, research, and foreign language studies, especially in the less-commonly taught languages of U.S. strategic interest.

The various programs funded under this account serve to strengthen the nation’s educational infrastructure in areas where the need grows greater by the day. Strong academic programs in critical foreign languages and intensive training in multi-disciplinary regional studies including socio-economic, cultural, security, and religious aspects among others are vital to our national security. It is also important to keep in mind that, beyond the intensive curriculum development and related academic programming that is possible thanks to these programs, these resources make possible extensive outreach to K-12 classrooms, strong collaborations between four year postsecondary institutions and community colleges, and strengthened ties between U. S. postsecondary institutions and international partners.

Our request would restore funding for these programs to the Fiscal Year 2010 level and is consistent with the Administration request for this account. This is a small, but vitally important investment both in education and national security.

Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT  
Member of Congress
Members of Congress who signed the Fiscal Year 2012 Title VI International Education and Foreign Language Programs Letter

1. Rush Holt (D-NJ)
2. David Wu (D-OR)
3. Raul M. Grijalva (D-AZ)
4. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
5. Susan Davis (D-CA)
6. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
7. Yvette Clarke (D-NY)
8. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
9. Albio Sires (D-NJ)
10. Dale E. Kildee (D-MI)
11. Bruce Braley (D-IA)
12. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
13. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
14. Keith Ellison (D-MN)
15. Donald M. Payne (D-NJ)
16. David Scott (D-GA)
17. Charles B. Rangel (D-NY)
18. Bobby Scott (D-VA)
19. Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY)
20. Cedric Richmond (D-LA)
21. John Dingell (D-MI)
22. Stephen Lynch (D-MA)
23. Jim McDermott (D-WA)
24. Hank Johnson (D-GA)