United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 16, 1979

Dear Friend:

In response to the developing discussion about a national service corps, I am writing to invite your participation in a conference which I am sponsoring with the Student Advisory Council of the Massachusetts Department of Education and the Bureau of Student Services.

Since I consider my post-college Peace Corps duty in Ethiopia to be the strongest and most valuable learning experience in my life, I see many potential benefits from some form of national service which would allow young adults between the approximate ages of 16-25 to solve some of society's unmet needs while spending a year or two at a public service job.

Before the Congress considers legislation to create a system for national service, I feel it is imperative that I have your views on the fundamental questions which this issue raises. The conference will be held on February 2, 1980, in Waltham, at Brandeis University's Center for Public Service from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. It has been planned to provide opportunity for full exploration and discussion of the national service issue.

I hope you will be able to attend on February 2. If not, I urge you to send a representative so that your views can be expressed. For your information, I am enclosing a tentative schedule and a reply form which should be returned by December 10, 1979, so that final plans may be completed.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Theda Leonard in my Boston office (617-223-7240).

PAUL E. TSONGAS

United States Senate

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