



December 11, 2007

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-7020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Republican Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-7010

Dear Senators Reid and McConnell:

On behalf of the IRA Charitable Rollover Coalition, representing millions of volunteers, donors, and recipients of services who are part of America's nonprofit community, we write to urge the Senate to extend the IRA Charitable Rollover before the end of the year.

Since enactment in August 2006, the IRA Charitable Rollover has generated a significant amount of new charitable giving by eliminating the barrier in the tax law that had discouraged transfers from individual retirement accounts to charities. The provision allows older Americans, particularly those individuals who do not itemize their tax deductions and would not otherwise receive any tax benefit for their charitable contributions, to donate money to thousands of nonprofit organizations. These nonprofits feed the hungry, care for the ill and help in times of natural disaster. Without action by Congress in the coming weeks, however, this important charitable giving incentive will expire on December 31, 2007, thus depriving thousands of charitable organizations the resources they need to serve the public.

We recognize that you are diligently working to address a number of issues in the waning days of this year. As you address these issues, we ask that you keep in mind the many charities that rely on donations from generous Americans to provide essential services to individuals and communities in need across the country. The expiration of the IRA Charitable Rollover would represent a major step backward for these charities and the people they serve. Therefore, we hope the incentive can continue without interruption.

We thank you for your leadership on this issue and wish you a happy new year.

Respectfully,

Diana Aviv
President and CEO
Independent Sector
1200 Eighteenth Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
www.independentsector.org

Tanya Howe Johnson
President and CEO
National Committee on Planned Giving
233 McCrea Street, Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46225
www.ncpg.org