



March 5, 2020

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Chairman
Subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Leahy:

On behalf of the more than 500 business and NGO members of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC), including business, military, and faith-based leaders in all 50 states, I write in strong opposition to an amendment proposed by Senator Rand Paul that would offset emergency funding to address the growing coronavirus threat by canceling over \$8 billion in congressionally approved funds for the International Affairs Budget.

If enacted, this amendment would cancel critical funding for State Department, USAID, and other development programs around the world, undermining our national security and economic interests and placing America's global leadership at risk. Cuts of this magnitude would have devastating consequences on our ability to confront unprecedented global challenges – including countering China's growing influence around the world, supporting partners in the fight against extremism, and addressing the impacts of the Venezuelan refugee crisis on key allies like Colombia.

There is a strong bipartisan legacy in the Senate of rejecting deep and dangerous cuts to America's development and diplomacy programs. I urge the Senate to once again take decisive action and reject Senator Paul's shortsighted amendment. Doing so will ensure that resources already approved by Congress can be fully deployed to support cost-effective programs that advance America's interests.

Thank you for your unwavering support of America's international affairs programs and your commitment to strengthening the critical resources needed to advance America's global leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Schroyer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Liz Schroyer
President & CEO, USGLC