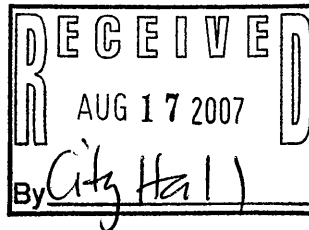


Barack Obama

August 14, 2007

The Honorable Richard Alarcón
Los Angeles City Councilmember, District 7
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Dear Councilmember Alarcón:

Thank you for contacting me about efforts in the City of Los Angeles to modernize the Federal Poverty Level guidelines. I support efforts to update these guidelines to more accurately reflect the growing costs of living throughout this country.

As your resolution states, the Federal Poverty Guidelines, which were developed decades ago, simply do not take into account the rising costs of child care, health care, transportation, and housing that make it difficult for many families to make ends meet in our globalizing economy. I believe that we should modernize the Federal Poverty Guidelines to more accurately reflect the costs of living and the economic pressures on American families. Without an accurate measure of poverty and economic insecurity in America, we will not be able to fully tackle the effects of these problems on our children and families.

Please keep me and my staff involved with your activities to update the Federal Poverty Guidelines. I look forward to continuing to support your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "O".

Barack Obama



Obama'08

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