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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION INTEGRITY,
SECURITY, AND ENFORCEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME AND FEDERAL
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

July 3, 2025

City of Chicago Workforce Committee
City Hall
121 N. LaSalle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear City of Chicago Workforce Committee Members,

I write to express my strong support for the continued operation and full federal funding of the Paul Simon Job Corps Center. The center plays a vital role in preparing young people in our communities for skilled careers and meaningful employment, particularly those from underserved and disenfranchised backgrounds in the 4th Congressional District and across the Chicagoland region.

The Paul Simon Job Corps Center provides critical career and technical education to youth ages 16 to 24, offering training in high-demand fields such as carpentry, security, pharmacy tech, and more. Its work empowers not just students, but also the local industries and neighborhoods that benefit from a stronger, more inclusive workforce. Their workforce development programs provide not only market-ready skills to individuals, but also help transform communities and families.

This Center is a pipeline for economic opportunity and a source of stability for students and their families. It has greatly contributed to our region's skilled labor force, particularly in manufacturing, and has helped build a more resilient and equitable economy. Given the concerning statistics around disconnected youth, we must take every step to invest in youth engagement opportunities.

I am deeply concerned by the Trump administration's attempts to shut down the Job Corps programs nationwide—they threaten the futures of enrolled students as well as the jobs of dedicated Job Corps staff. I commend you for defending Job Corps and applaud your advocacy to preserve federal funding for centers across the country. The students it serves and the communities they return to depend on your leadership. I re-affirm my commitment to working in partnership with federal, state, and local stakeholders to protect the future of the Job Corps program.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my Chief of Staff, Dr. Patty Garcia, at Patty.Garcia@mail.house.gov or (773) 342-0774.

Sincerely,



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress
Illinois' 4th Congressional District