

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

October 28, 2008

Alliance to Develop Power  
130 Union Street  
Springfield, MA 01105

Dear Friends,

I wish very much that I could be with you as you gather for your annual convention. ADP continues to be an important voice on workers' rights, health care, civil rights, housing and many other critical issues that mean so much to all our communities.

I'm proud to have worked with you to improve the children's health insurance program, and I'm also proud of the work you've done to preserve affordable housing, develop community-owned businesses, provide low-income people with basic necessities, increase economic development, and strengthen civic engagement in our communities.

We all have a responsibility to help members of our communities in need. The war on poverty has casualties like any other war and we must respond in ways that are as good and compassionate as the American people.

We know what must be done. We're a stronger country when we're a fairer country. Inequalities and injustice undermine our economy, our security, our standing in the world, and our future. We need to wage a wiser war on poverty. That means a broader effort and a new spirit of cooperation to reduce poverty, and a new dedication by leaders of government at every level.

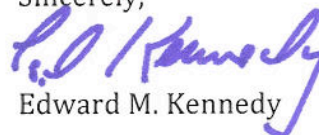
As my brother Robert Kennedy said at the University of Cape Town in 1966,

"Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

I commend ADP and each of you for your leadership and good works, and I look forward to continuing to work closely with you in the future on these important issues.

With great respect and warmest wishes,

Sincerely,



Edward M. Kennedy