

SAVE FULBRIGHT: LOBBYING 2015

Everybody in the Fulbright Community worldwide can lobby to get Congress to revise the Obama administration's budget proposal for the Fulbright Program that wants to make a devastating cut of \$ 30 million from the Fulbright Program. Here's how:

1. Everybody can **use the hashtag #SaveFulbright** if you are sharing this information on Facebook or twitter.
2. Fulbright alumni from **outside of the United States** should write the US Ambassador in their country and let him or her know about their experience with the program and what they think about the Administration's funding proposal. The Ambassador can let Secretary of State Kerry know how you feel. (Information on the addresses of US embassies and US ambassadors is [here](#).)
3. If you are an alum from a country outside of the United States with a **binational Fulbright commission** make sure to contact them to and provide the commission with a copy of any correspondence you send the US Ambassador. They will be glad to hear from you if you have not been in touch and we want to keep track of our lobbyists! (Contact information for binational commissions is [here](#).)
4. If you are a **US citizen** or from a US institution, there are a number of ways to get engaged and lobby Congress in support of Fulbright funding. All US alumni, friends, and supporters of the Fulbright Program have two letters to write: one to their Representative and one to their Senator. See How to Lobby US Congress below for details.
5. If you are an **US alum from a country with a binational Fulbright commission**, please also make sure to contact them to and provide the commission with a copy of any correspondence you send to your representatives or senators. (Contact information for binational commissions is [here](#).)

We must engage those Members of Congress who serve on the House and Senate State-Foreign Operations Appropriations (SFOPS) Subcommittees as soon a possible because the House Subcommittee will start working on

APRIL 4

This gives just three weeks to lobby for the Fulbright Program. It's future is at stake!

HOW TO LOBBY: THREE EASY STEPS

1. Identify your Representative and Senator

Links to lists of all Representatives and Senators, which can be sorted both by state or by last name, are below:

<http://house.gov/representatives/>

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

2. Check out the format for writing them a letter

Resources for effective advocacy are available on the Alliance for International Educational and Cultural Exchange website, including the exceptionally valuable how

to write and submit an effective hand-crafted letter (<http://www.alliance-exchange.org/write-your-members-congress>)

3. Give them a clear message

Here's what to ask for:

1. Ask for the highest possible level of funding for the Fulbright program for fiscal year 2015, at least restoring the program to its current fiscal year 14 level of \$ 235 million.
2. Ask your Senators and House Members to communicate their support to their respective State-Foreign Relations Operations Subcommittee.
3. Briefly tell your Representative/Senator how the Fulbright Program has impacted and continues to impact on your life and why it is and continues to be important.

It is particularly important that your Representatives/Senators get this information to Members of Congress who serve on the House and Senate State-Foreign Operations Appropriations (SFOPS) Subcommittees.

If you live in one of the congressional districts of the Representative listed below or in one of the States of the Senators, your voice has more weight.

Lists and links to their respective websites/committee member lists are below:

House of Representatives:

<http://appropriations.house.gov/about/members/stateforeignops.htm>

Republicans

Kay Granger, Texas, Chairwoman
Frank Wolf, Virginia
Mario Diaz-Balart, Florida
Charles Dent, Pennsylvania, Vice-Chairman
Ander Crenshaw, Florida
Kevin Yoder, Kansas
Tom Rooney, Florida

Democrats

Nita Lowey, New York, Ranking Member
Adam Schiff, California
Barbara Lee, California
Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Florida
Henry Cuellar, Texas

Senate

<http://www.appropriations.senate.gov/sc-state.cfm>

Democratic Subcommittee Members

Senator Patrick Leahy (Chairman) Vermont
Senator Tom Harkin, Iowa
Senator Barbara Mikulski, Maryland
Senator Dick Durbin, Illinois
Senator Mary Landrieu, Louisiana

Senator Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire
Senator Mark Begich, Alaska
Senator Chris Coons, Delaware

Republican Subcommittee Members

Senator Lindsey Graham (Ranking), South Carolina
Senator Mitch McConnell, Kentucky
Senator Mark Kirk, Illinois
Senator Daniel Coats, Indiana
Senator Roy Blunt, Missouri
Senator Mike Johanns, Nebraska
Senator John Boozman, Arizona

It is essential that we begin our outreach to Congress immediately. These requests are best delivered **as soon as possible, preferably by the end of March**, because the House Appropriations Subcommittee will start its deliberations on

April 4, 2014.

This gives us only three weeks for the Fulbright community to make itself heard!

**ONLY EFFECTIVE LOBBYING WITH CONGRESS WILL SAVE FULBRIGHT 2015!
THIS IS UP TO YOU!**