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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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July 23, 2008

Mr. John Corcoran
The John Corcoran Foundation
2289 Valley Road
Oceanside, CA 92056

Dear Mr. Corcoran;

As one well acquainted with the limitations associated with illiteracy, you are well aware of the critical role of reading and workplace literacy in today's economy. These skills are often sadly lacking and that failure is holding back millions of Americans, both young and old, as they strive to improve their life chances.

I'm inviting you to share your insights and your advocacy on this issue, during a panel discussion I will be moderating as part of the Congressional Black Caucus' Annual Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. Your gripping book, *The Teacher Who Couldn't Read* and the efforts of The John Corcoran Foundation to expand educational and literacy opportunities for our nations most vulnerable are to be commended.

The panel discussion, *"Read, Lead, Succeed"* will be held on Friday, September 26, 2008 at 9 a.m. in Room 140A of the Washington Convention Center, 801 Mt. Vernon Place NW, Washington, DC. Others invited to participate on the panel include: Verizon Foundation President, Mr. Patrick Gaston; Atlanta Mayor, The Honorable Shirley Franklin; and ABC News Reporter, Pierre Thomas.

Please contact Debra Anderson at Debra.Anderson@mail.house.gov, or Keyshana Williams, kwilliams29@gmail.com in my office by August 1, 2008 to confirm your participation. I look forward to your affirmative response.

Very truly yours,

Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress

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