

June 15, 2018

Dear Leaders,

There is no better tool for fighting extreme global poverty than a good job.

American foreign assistance saves lives, helps people climb out of poverty, promotes stability, spurs economic growth, and brings hope to the darkest of places. The investment of America's private sector in the economic growth of developing countries — which is currently massively under-utilized — in partnership with foreign assistance, has the power to be a transformative force for good.

The bipartisan Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development (BUILD) Act, H.R. 5105 and S.2463, would help American investors and entrepreneurs fight extreme poverty simply by doing business in developing and fragile countries. The BUILD Act would bring tens of billions of new private sector dollars into the fight against extreme poverty, helping build infrastructure, increasing first-time access to electricity, starting businesses, creating jobs, and ultimately reducing the need for American foreign assistance.

At a moment when the U.S. is competing against major economic powers, including China, which have had similar development finance corporations for years, this new bill would help level the playing field for American entrepreneurs. Once up and running, thanks to the interest repaid on its loans and investments, the new development finance corporation would return money to the U.S. Treasury each year.

America's development-finance efforts have barely scratched the surface of their potential. Imagine how much change a modern and fully empowered development finance institution could enact... how many jobs it could create in developing in fragile countries...and how many communities could be empowered.

We look to you to continue this progress and ask for your support of the BUILD Act, which will help the United States fulfill its longstanding commitment to fighting extreme global poverty.

Signed,



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