



## Join the Peace Corps Caucus (House of Representatives Meetings ONLY)

### Our Request

- **The Ask for Your Member of the House of Representatives**
  - **Please Become a Member of the Bi-Partisan House Peace Corps Caucus**

### Background

- A congressional caucus is a group of members of the United States Congress that meet or share information in pursuit of common legislative objectives.
- Within the new (118th) Congress, there are hundreds – possibly more than one thousand – caucuses (they can also be referred to as coalitions, study groups, task forces, or working groups).
- Caucuses literally run from A to Z (Adult Literacy Caucus; Zoo and Aquarium Caucus). Some caucuses focus on specific countries or regions (Afghanistan, Ukraine, Central America). Others focus on particular issues (Hunger, Human Rights, Climate Change). There is a Military Veterans Caucus. There is also a National Service Caucus.
- Ten years ago members established a bi-partisan House Peace Corps Caucus. With the new congress now in place, all members have the opportunity to join (or re-join) the caucus. RPCV Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA) and Garret Graves (R-LA) co-chair the caucus
- Past activities of the House Peace Corps Caucus have included hosting an annual gathering for congressional staff and interns to learn about Peace Corps service opportunities, and occasional forums highlighting the work and importance of the Peace Corps.

### Key Talking Points

- **Invitation:** Our resources webpage includes a copy of the February 6, 2023 letter from Reps Garamendi and Graves, inviting other House members to join the Peace Corps Caucus.
- **Show Support:** In many meetings, lawmakers or their staff will express their support for and importance of the Peace Corps. Joining the caucus is perhaps the easiest step they can take to show their support.
- **Non-Partisan and Non-Binding:** While it is hoped that members of the Peace Corps Caucus will be supporters of key policies and initiatives, joining the caucus does not obligate them to take future actions in support of the Peace Corps.
- **How to Join:** To join the Peace Corps Caucus, offices should contact Elle Ekman in Representative Garamendi's office, or Logan De La Barre-Hays in Representative Graves' office.