



GEORGE FLAGGS, JR.
MAYOR

April 21, 2025

**The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
2466 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515**

Dear Congressman Thompson,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent directive from the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) to demobilize the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) members currently serving at the Vicksburg campus. This directive impacts 351 members—240 of whom were just three weeks away from completing their service and graduating in May. This abrupt decision not only disrupts the lives of these dedicated young Americans but also significantly impacts the communities they serve.

The Vicksburg campus was inaugurated on September 1, 2009, as the fifth regional campus of AmeriCorps NCCC, following the significant contributions of AmeriCorps teams to Gulf Coast recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina. Over the years, these members have contributed immensely to disaster relief efforts, community development projects, and various local initiatives. Their presence has fostered a spirit of service and community engagement that resonates deeply within our city.

I had the honor of attending the graduation ceremony for the most recent cohort of NCCC members. Witnessing their commitment and the positive impact they've made reaffirmed the program's value to our community and beyond.

I respectfully ask that you advocate for the reinstatement of the AmeriCorps NCCC program and to support measures that recognize and preserve the invaluable contributions of these service members. Their work not only benefits communities like Vicksburg but also embodies the spirit of civic duty and national service.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, your leadership on behalf of Mississippi and for your continued support of initiatives that strengthen our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Flaggs, Jr.", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

George Flaggs, Jr.
Mayor, City of Vicksburg

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