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August 6, 2009

Senator Tom Coburn, MD
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Coburn,

Lutheran Services in America supports your amendment to the Cash for Clunkers program that would allow dealers to dispose of vehicles by donating them to a 501(c)3 charitable organization. LSA members provide job training for low-income people by repairing used, donated cars. The cars are also used for low-income families in need of transportation, particularly in rural areas where public transportation is not available.

Your amendment would help nonprofit charitable organizations at a critical time. Many charitable organizations are experiencing cuts in government funding, reduced charitable giving and an increased demand for services. The Coburn Amendment would help us to better meet the increase in demand for services and would provide automobiles for people in need.

LSA is an alliance of national Lutheran church denominations and their health and human service providers. LSA has nearly 300 member organizations providing services throughout all 50 states and the Caribbean. The network of organizations works neighbor to neighbor with the elderly, children and families, people with mental and physical disabilities, refugees, victims of natural disasters and others in need. Through these efforts LSA members create opportunities and build self-sufficiency and promise in millions of lives.

For more information, please contact Lisa Carr at lcarr@lutheranservices.org or at 202-626-7945.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lisa M. Carr'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Lisa M. Carr
Senior Director of Public Policy