

*Kristi Laguzza-Boosman*

*KLB Community Consulting*

*P.O. Box 703*

*Twisp, WA 98856*

*Ph: 509.997.4840*

*Fax: 509.997.4804*

*Email: [kristi@methownet.com](mailto:kristi@methownet.com)*

*Web: <http://www.klbcommunityconsulting.com>*

*Master's Program, Public Administration, Walden University, <http://www.waldenu.edu>*

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

March 26, 2009

I am writing to offer an alternative economic proposal in the event current policies prove unable to achieve the results required to stabilize our economy and avert further disaster. Though there are many good elements in the stimulus package, I am deeply concerned that your administration may have misdiagnosed the economic problems we face, and the solutions for them, based on a faulty assumption; primarily that “in order to fix the economy we must first fix the financial sector to get credit flowing again...” The reality is that economically stressed Americans have already defaulted on an estimated \$68 billion in credit card debt in the last three months of 2008 alone – up from \$27 billion for all of 2007 – with defaults expected to reach \$96 billion in 2009. Encouraging more debt to an already indebted population is not a long-term strategy for economic health

Regrettably, your plan appears to assume that extending credit to financially strapped Americans, in the hopes that they will resume spending, is the solution to our economic problems. As such, the nation has committed hundreds of billions; perhaps even trillions of taxpayer dollars towards bailing out the financial sector that helped create our economic problems in the first place.

If we wish to fix our economy, we should focus first on improving demand, as consumer spending is what drives 70% of the economic engine of this nation. Increasing the supply of credit, under current economic conditions, may do little to increase the demand for goods, while the stimulus plan designed to increase demand, is woefully inadequate for the job. The money we are spending bailing out the financial sector would be much better spent creating a stimulus that would provide average Americans with the economic security and income they need to resume spending and increase demand. This is a serious miscalculation that squanders precious time and money while the fundamental problems of our economy, and the social fabric of our nation, continue their dangerous declines.

My alternative economic proposal, entitled, “*Plan B*” – *Recalibrating an Economy in Decline: Building an Economy in Balance* identifies the structural imbalances that

created the current economic crisis, and proposes policy alternatives for fixing them. Not only does "*Plan B*" put the needs of our people first, and lay the ground work for true economic revival, it does so in a way that prepares us for the future challenges of diminishing oil reserves and climate change.

I do not presume to be an economist. I am a public communications and outreach specialist currently earning a Master's Degree in Public Administration, where I have focused my attention on the economic and social health of the nation. In my work as an outreach specialist, I have created and implemented public education campaigns around some of our nation's most vexing problems including: Foster care, drug addiction, hunger, death and dying, Native American treaty rights, the environment, and sustainability issues, to name a few. As an older graduate student, I have been able to develop the academic underpinnings to more fully understand the economic and social conditions currently challenging the nation.

My background has provided me a broad perspective from which to understand our nation's problems using multiple disciplines including: Economics, sociology, political science, public policy, public administration, public health, environmental science, and ethics. As a result, the enclosed policy proposal is not limited to economic prescriptions for how free markets work, but instead relies on a broad based understanding of how healthy, balanced economies actually function. Not only would "*Plan B*" help avert a further destabilization of the nation's economic and social structures, but it would also lay the foundation for a healthy, stable economy, with secure, productive people, well into the future. This would be a fitting legacy for a President who came into office offering a nation hope for change.

Thank you for considering my recommendations. I wish you success in the enormous challenges ahead.

Sincerely,

Kristi Laguzza-Boosman

Cc: Vice President, Joe Biden  
Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernanke,  
Treasury Secretary, Timothy Geithner  
FDIC Chairwoman, Shelia Bair  
Senior Presidential Adviser, David Axelrod  
Chief Economic Advisor, Larry Summers  
Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid  
Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi  
Senator Patty Murray (D, WA)