

Consumer Action • Consumer Federation of America • Consumers Union  
National Association of Consumer Advocates • National Consumers League  
National Consumer Law Center • Public Citizen  
U.S. Public Interest Research Group

February 1, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear President Obama:

As presidents and chief executive officers of many of the nation's leading consumer organizations, we would like to thank you for your leadership on key consumer issues during your first Administration. Your close work with Congress led to the passage of the Affordable Care Act, the Dodd- Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which also established the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the CARD Act passage, the Food Safety Modernization Act, and a law to eliminate the middleman in the college loan program. And your work on fuel economy standards will help reduce our dependence on foreign oil and save consumers money at the pump. You have also appointed many fine agency heads that have pursued a pro-consumer agenda.

As you begin a second term and a new Congress begins, we also write to let you know that our organizations are united in working to redouble our efforts on the issues most pressing to American consumers. We intend to work together with your Administration and Congress to amplify our voices and resources on these matters. We are also sharing this agenda with the leadership of the Senate and House.

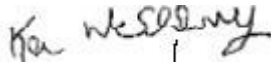
As the events of the last four years have shown, weak consumer protections do not just harm individual Americans, but also threatens the economic security of the entire nation. Inadequate laws and poor oversight of credit and financial services have led to a huge loss of wealth for many American families and triggered an economic recession. We hope to elevate the consumer voice in the public policy arena and help educate Americans about what is at stake in the marketplace when it comes to their health, their pocketbooks, and their safety. The agenda we are providing today is a key starting point for our recommendations regarding the top issues for consumers.

“An Agenda to Ensure Consumers Are Heard” describes several essential priorities, including protecting pocketbooks, ensuring access to justice, implementing new laws regulating food safety and product safety, and achieving the goals of the Affordable Care

Act and the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. We also ask that you reinstate the key position of the White House Special Advisor on Consumer Affairs. Consumer interests need a seat at the table and should have the President's ear.

By working together and helping consumers make more informed decisions, we are building an influential consumer movement that will be a force for change. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead to achieve these critical goals.

Sincerely,



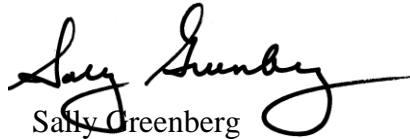
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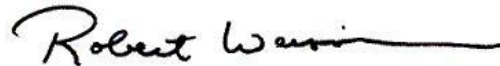
Stephen Brobeck  
Executive Director  
Consumer Federation of America




Sally Greenberg  
Executive Director  
National Consumers League



Willard P. Ogburn  
Executive Director  
National Consumer Law Center  
(on behalf of its low income clients)



Robert Weissman  
President  
Public Citizen



Jim Guest  
President and CEO  
Consumers Union



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