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US House of Representatives

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**Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515-2402

May 19, 1995

The Honorable Kweisi Mfume  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2419 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515-2007

Dear Kweisi:

*Same letter sent to  
6 other members of  
the Congressional Black  
Caucus.*

Over the past several weeks, I have been working with Norm Kurland of the Center for Economic and Social Justice on some bold, new approaches to address the fundamental economic problems which plague our communities.

They include using the vast money creating powers of the Federal Reserve as the framers intended: to finance real, productive, economic growth, as opposed to government deficits; promoting Employee Stock Ownership Plans, Community Investment Corporations, and others tools to provide more people the opportunity to acquire income producing assets; and reexamining credit policies which promote the ever increasing concentration of wealth in our society.

Norm's ideas are challenging, but so are the times in which we live. There is a desperate need for employment in our communities, yet present monetary policies intentionally choke off job creation. At the same time, few Americans, even those fortunate enough to have a job, can acquire a real equity stake in our country - the true source of economic empowerment. Traditional approaches, from the left and the right, have failed to address these fundamental issues.

I believe that you will find Mr. Kurland's ideas as thought provoking as I have, and very helpful to us as we work to fashion a program that can address the genuine concerns of our communities. If you agree, I will be pleased to arrange a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

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