



Hon. Theodore R. McKeldin, Chairman
Dr. Homer E. Favor, Vice-Chairman
Parren J. Mitchell, Vice-Chairman
Gilbert Rosenthal, Secretary
Dr. Wilmer V. Bell, Treasurer
Walter H. Lively, Executive Director

July 3, 1968

Dear Sir:

As Chairman of the Baltimore Urban Coalition, I am writing to inform you that we have undertaken the task of mobilizing a group of outstanding local businessmen who are greatly concerned over the future of America's cities.

These men numbering about 200 and representing a full range of the commercial interests of our city will be accompanied by Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, III and leaders from religious, labor, educational, and civil rights groups when they journey to Washington next Thursday, July 11th to meet with the Maryland Delegation to the Congress.

It is our purpose to make it clear to our representatives that we care deeply about the conditions in Baltimore and all of the cities of the country and to urge them to give priority attention to Urban America and its people.

We would like to urge you and the other local Urban Coalitions around the nation to act as the catalytic agents in your cities to activate similar demonstrations on the part of your local business leadership. We believe this is vitally important--that the timing is such that we have the opportunity to be effective with Congress and with the people at home who will be heartened by our show of concern.

We share the sense of urgency expressed in John Gardner's letter to Congress on June 27th and this is our way of supporting it with the delegation in Congress. We sincerely hope that you will in some way join us in this effort to inform Congress of the concern of the American business community.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Theodore R. McKeldin", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Theodore R. McKeldin