



Honorable Members of Congress:

As leaders in the business community, we are deeply concerned by the escalating division and distrust eroding the fabric of American society. Polarization is no longer just a political issue—it's affecting our workplaces, our communities, and our economy. **That's why we strongly support the bipartisan Building Civic Bridges Act (BCBA) H.R. 4329 and urge Congress to advance this vital legislation.**

The BCBA represents a meaningful step toward empowering civic, nonprofit, and faith-based organizations across the country to address division at the local level. The bill would establish an Office of Civic Bridgebuilding within AmeriCorps, the federal volunteer program with a 30-year history of service to American communities. This office would oversee a national grant program to support nonpartisan civic bridgebuilding efforts in all 50 states.

Division and incivility are not just political problems—they show up in the workplace every day. Research from SHRM shows that incivility costs U.S. businesses more than \$2 billion daily in lost productivity and absenteeism. The strain of polarization affects how teams function, how colleagues communicate, and whether employees feel safe and supported at work. By investing in efforts that build understanding, trust, and connection in our communities, we help create the conditions for more collaborative workplaces. The ripple effects are real and essential for long-term business success.

The BCBA is a timely and targeted investment in restoring the social fabric that supports both civic life and economic vitality. While there is no single solution to polarization, this legislation offers a practical path forward—one that strengthens the local organizations best equipped to foster dialogue, bridge divides, and build trust from the ground up. It's a smart starting point for tackling a challenge that touches every part of American life, including our workplaces.

We applaud the bill's bipartisan leadership and urge every member of Congress to support its passage in 2025. American businesses have much to gain from a stronger civic culture and much to lose if polarization continues unchecked. It's time to invest in solutions that rebuild trust, foster mutual respect, and strengthen the foundations of our democracy and economy.

We echo the words of Rep. Andy Barr: *"Our nation was founded on civic engagement and rigorous debate to achieve the ultimate good. This legislation will provide resources to revitalize our civic culture and bring our country together."*



Companies and business organizations across the nation are proud to support the BCBA and hope our backing will encourage more members of Congress to join us. As stewards of the communities where we live and work, we urge you to co-sponsor the *Building Civic Bridges Act* and help move this important legislation forward.

Respectfully,

The signatory companies & business organizations