Population Association of America and
Association of Population Centers

Senate Voted to Restrict Political Science Funding at the
National Science Foundation
Will Population Research Be Next?

Tell Your Senators That You Object

Last week the Senate passed an amendment, introduced by Senator Coburn (OK), to H.R. 933, the Fiscal Year 2013 Continuing Resolution. The amendment requires the NSF Director to certify each political science grant, with explanation, "as promoting national security or the economic interests of the United States." This sets a dangerous precedent, singling out a particular field of science and interfering with the peer review process.

We encourage you to contact your U.S. Senators and U.S. Representative to express your opposition to the Coburn amendment and to any attempt to interfere with the peer review process at NSF.

Below is a more detailed explanation and simple steps and talking points for making a quick call to your members of Congress.

**Background**

On March 20, you received an urgent action alert, asking you to contact your U.S. Senators to urge a NO vote on a Coburn amendment to H.R. 933, the Fiscal Year 2013 Continuing Resolution. As you may recall, this amendment would have transferred the $10 million in the National Science Foundation's (NSF) political science research portfolio to the National Cancer Institute and overall federal deficit reduction. We asked