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MEMORANDUM

FROM: Marilyn Berry Thompson
F. Marion Turner

SUBJECT: THE NEXT 30-60 DAYS -- YOUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
RELATIONS AGENDA

THE ELECTION:

The outcome of the election will, of course, have a major impact on the congressional schedule, the final agenda of this Congress, and the final legislative and appropriations decisions governing FY 2007 funding. We will also be preparing in-depth analyses for you on those outcomes, what they will mean for your delegation and representations, and for the key committees which affect your federal funding and key legislation.

THE SCHEDULE:

Congress will return the week of November 13th. At this point in time (and certainly subject to change depending on election outcomes), Congress will:

(1) Consider the next steps for FY 2007 appropriations:

- (a) Extend the existing Continuing Resolution which expires November 17 -- to a date not yet determined.
- (b) Determine whether the House and Senate will even try to pass additional appropriations bills as freestanding measures, or whether they will try to advance one big omnibus measure, or just keep extending the Continuing Resolution.

(2) Organize their parties/Leadership structure pursuant to Election outcomes.

(3) Consider a yet-to-be-finalized list of MUST-DO BILLS.

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At this point in time, there will be no votes scheduled for the week of November 20th or the 27th. Congress would convene the week of December 4th to finalize (1), (2) and (3).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Please continue to use the election recess, and then November and December, to stay in close contact with your congressional representatives to keep your agenda, key needs and objectives in front of them. Try to organize individual meetings/contact with them. Yes, they are focused on the/their election, but please do what you can to maintain a "presence" and keep your agenda -- both your current and your future/planned agenda -- in front of them.

- B. Your FY 2008 Agenda. While the final outcomes for FY 2007 appropriations and certain other key legislation may not be determined for several more weeks/months, you will still need to have your FY 2008 agenda finalized and agreed upon by the first week of January.** A final agenda should be delivered to your delegation during that first week of January. I know there are many internal steps which need to be taken. So, please plan accordingly. We are available to help you "assemble" your plan, as always.