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Letter to POTUS from [Congresswoman] Waters

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and
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Pages: (Including fax cover) 2

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Date: 10/20/99

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Hi Todd,

Phill wanted to make sure you received a copy of Congresswoman Waters' letter to President Clinton. Please let me know you received this fax.

Thanks...Lauren



MAXINE WATERSMember for California
20th District, California

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0535

October 8, 1999

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500**Dear President Clinton:**

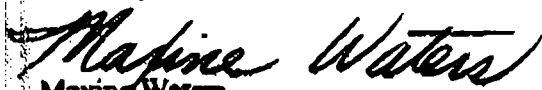
On Wednesday, December 1, 1999, World AIDS Day, I am convening a National Town Hall Meeting in Los Angeles concerning HIV and AIDS in the African-American community. This event will be the culmination of two months of town hall meetings in Congressional Black Caucus districts around the country. I believe it would send an important signal for you to participate in this culminating session. I am asking you to personally attend.

The National Town Hall Meeting will take place a year after our historic October 28, 1998 White House event to release the \$156 million to the African American community and publicly acknowledge the HIV/AIDS "public health emergency in the African American community." Although African-Americans represent only 13 percent of the U.S. population, we now account for 45 percent of newly-diagnosed AIDS cases and between 240,000 and 325,000 of us are infected with HIV. These statistics by themselves cannot speak to the lost productivity, "a lost generation" and/or damage to our collective spirits and psyches. The true impact of HIV/AIDS is deep and complex, with a human element that is simply impossible to reduce to numbers.

The response of African-American communities nationwide to HIV/AIDS has moved forward, slowly but steadily. We now need to sustain the momentum of our efforts on an ongoing basis. The National Town Hall Meeting will be a unique opportunity to focus attention on what is being done, and what more needs to be done, about HIV and AIDS in our communities.

I believe it is important for our people to hear from their President the message that African-American lives are worth saving. I know you believe it. Please join me to deliver that message.

Sincerely,


Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

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