

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Alexander Acosta
Secretary
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary Acosta:

I write to you regarding the recent announcement that Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers (CCC) currently operated by the U.S. Forest Service will be transitioning to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). I appreciate this effort to better align CCC's organizational structure with DOL's mission, but have concerns about the closure of the Anaconda CCC in Anaconda, Montana. I urge you to maintain Anaconda CCC's operating status or provide suitable and equivalent alternatives for the students currently served by the Anaconda CCC.

Additionally, I have heard concerns about the decision to transition some CCCs, like the Trapper Creek CCC in Darby, Montana, to be operated by new contract operators. While the need to ensure CCCs operate as efficiently as possible is important, it is critical that such a transition does not impede the effectiveness or capacity of impacted sites. If such a transition is necessary, I request that you provide all relevant information to impacted CCCs and their communities in a timely and transparent manner.

As you know, CCCs provide valuable jobs skills and training for young people in Montana and across the country. This training is even more important as demand for skilled employees in construction, manufacturing, and many other trades is increasing substantially. Shutting the Anaconda CCC will deprive its students and Montana as a whole of a valuable source of skilled labor and puts jobs at risk in Anaconda and surrounding communities. I request that you reverse this decision and keep the Anaconda CCC open.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to continuing to work with you on this and other critical issues.

Sincerely,



STEVE DAINES
United States Senator



GREG GIANFORTE
United States Representative