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Janet Yellen Secretary of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen:

I represent the American Council of the Blind, in connection with litigation against the Department of the Treasury for the purpose of requiring that U.S. currency be made accessible to the blind and visually impaired. According to recent press reports, as well as statements from the White House Press Office, the Biden Administration is considering accelerating the redesign of the \$20 bill to incorporate a portrait of Harriet Tubman. The Council welcomes such a redesign, provided that the newly redesigned bill incorporates an accessibility feature for the blind and visually impaired. Inclusion of an accessibility feature is required by the federal district court's injunctive order dated October 3, 2008, which mandates that accessibility be provided in all future currency redesigns. See Am. Council of The Blind v. Paulson, 581 F. Supp. 2d 1 (D.D.C. 2008).

The American Council of the Blind has been striving for accessible currency for the past 45 years. U.S. paper currency of all denominations is of the same size, shape, and texture. The currency of the United States is virtually the only major currency in the world which does not incorporate an accessibility feature for the blind and visually impaired. The time to rectify this injustice has long since passed.

Our currency stands as a symbol for who we are as a nation. As a nation, we must be committed to equality for all persons, including those with visual disabilities. It is therefore imperative that the next redesign incorporate an accessibility feature. This action is not only required by the injunctive order issued by the court. It is also the right thing to do.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey A. Lovitky

Attorney for the American Council of the Blind