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U.S. must not cut its poverty outreach around the world

We simply must not cut funding to programs that are designed to alleviate poverty in the developing world. Somehow, Congress must find the wherewithal to maintain the goodwill we have managed to establish around the world.

Uneducated, malnourished people are certainly not the answer to the world's problems. Healthy, educated, hopeful people do not look for escape and war, but rather for opportunity.

Most of our development assistance is in the form of partnerships with the receiving countries who add at least 20 percent of their own budgets to these programs.

The U.S. contribution to this type of assistance is less than 1 percent of our own budget — any savings would be negligible.

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Martinez

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