

WANTED: AN ASK FOR PHONE CALLS

I just got this email:

Marcy —

President Obama recorded a video to speak directly to you about his economic recovery plan.

America is facing an urgent and unprecedented challenge. The economic crisis requires bold and immediate action.

Watch President Obama's video and share it with your friends and family:http://my.barackobama.com/recover_yvideo

And I've also gotten friends inviting me in the last week to watch some other Obama videos together—that is, I've been invited to House Parties to discuss this. That means people are doing just as Obama (or David Plouffe) asks in their email alerts.

But I still haven't been invited to call my Senators or Congressman (all of whom, granted, have voted for stimulus, but Debbie Stabenow voted for a stupid Tom Coburn amendment forbidding any stimulus money being used for museums and parks—I do plan on chatting with her about that and if you're a Michigander, you should too!). Nor have I been invited by Barack Obama to call Sanctimonious Joe's latest gang—Joe, Haggis, the Bad Nelson, and Susan Collins—to ask why they're opposed to funds that will help states avoid cutting back necessary services, or why they're opposed to constructing schools.

Mobilizing the millions of people on Obama's email list is great. But isn't it better to mobilize them to do the same thing the wingnuts

are mobilizing their people to do—talk to members of Congress? Wouldn't it be better to use that list to press for a more progressive (and effective) stimulus package?