

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 6, 2014

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

Last year, Congress overwhelmingly passed a version of the No Budget, No Pay Act. This was a good first step, but it was only a temporary restriction. We need a permanent bill to require Congress to fulfill its most basic responsibilities: passing a budget and appropriations bills on time.

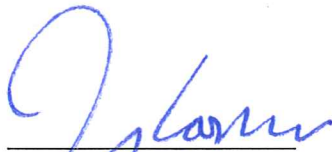
A year has passed, and Congress has made some progress. Both the House and Senate passed budgets last year. This proves pay for performance works. But we have much more progress to make. Congress still has not adopted a budget conference report in more than 1,700 days. And it's now been 17 years since all appropriations bills were passed on time. These continued failures are inexcusable. We know what works, and we should continue holding Congress' feet to the fire.

No Budget, No Pay can't be a one-year experiment; it should be made permanent. The bipartisan, bicameral No Budget, No Pay Act introduced last year by Jim Cooper, Reid Ribble, Ami Bera, and Ron DeSantis with our colleagues Sens. Dean Heller (R-NV) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) is permanent. The No Budget, No Pay Act, H.R. 310, also says that if Congress doesn't pass its budget and all appropriations conference reports by October 1st every year, then Congress doesn't get paid. Once pay is withheld, it's gone for good.

Getting the job done on time is a fundamental American principle, yet one that has been forgotten in our nation's Capitol. Americans work hard for their paychecks, and so must Congress. Members of Congress shouldn't be getting paid if they can't do their work. Bottom line: no budget, no pay. No appropriations bills, no pay. It's that simple.

We respectfully urge you to bring H.R. 310 to the floor for a vote as soon as possible, and look forward to working with you on this critical reform. Thank you for your consideration.

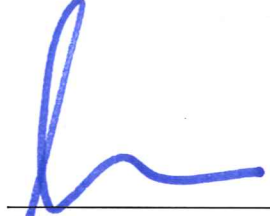
Sincerely,



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress




Reid Ribble
Member of Congress



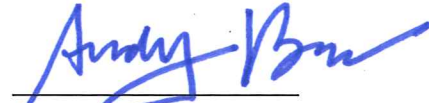
Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress




Ron DeSantis
Member of Congress



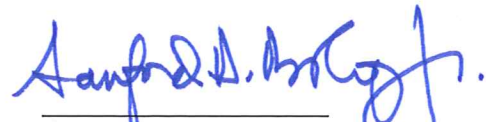
Ron Barber
Member of Congress




Andy Barr
Member of Congress




John Barrow
Member of Congress




Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



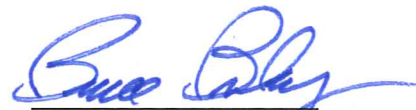
Tim Bishop
Member of Congress




Diane Black
Member of Congress




Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



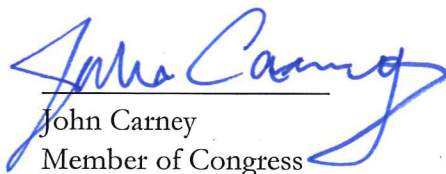
Bruce Braley
Member of Congress




Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



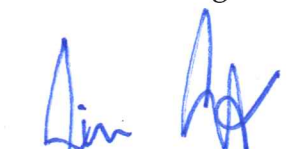
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



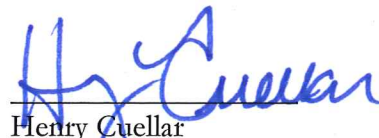
John Carney
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress

Rodney Davis

Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

Charles W. Dent

Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress

Elizabeth H. Esty

Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress

Mike Fitzpatrick

Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Chris Gibson

Chris Gibson
Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar

Paul A. Gosar
Member of Congress

Jim Himes

Jim Himes
Member of Congress

David P. Joyce

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Ron Kind

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

Ann Kirkpatrick

Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Daniel Lipinski

Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress

Dave Loebsack


Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress


Alan Lowenthal

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress


Cynthia M. Lummis

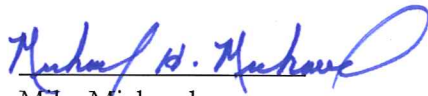
Cynthia M. Lummis
Member of Congress



Dan Maffei
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Jim Matheson
Member of Congress



Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress



Mike Michaud
Member of Congress



Patrick Murphy
Member of Congress

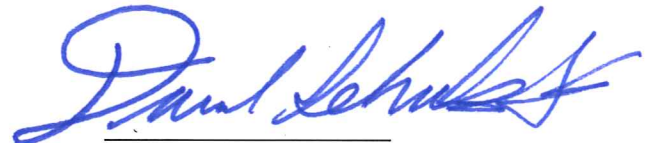

Bill Owens
Member of Congress

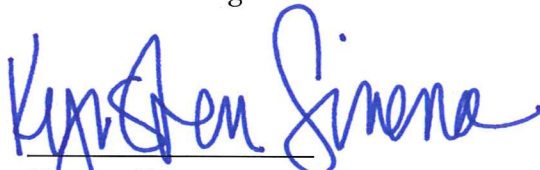

Scott Peters
Member of Congress


Phil Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress


Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress


Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress


David Schweikert
Member of Congress


Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress