

# 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.

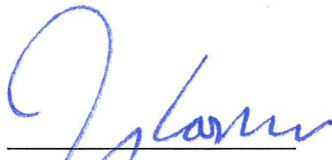
A year has passed, and Congress has made some progress. Both the House and Senate passed budgets last year. This proves pay for performance works. But we have much more progress to make. Congress still has not adopted a budget conference report in more than 1,700 days. And it's now been 17 years since 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.

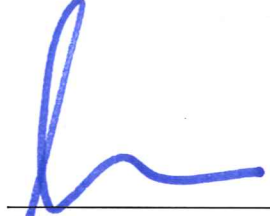
Sincerely,



Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress




Reid Ribble  
Member of Congress




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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



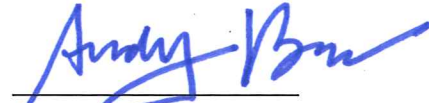
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Ron DeSantis  
Member of Congress




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Ron Barber  
Member of Congress



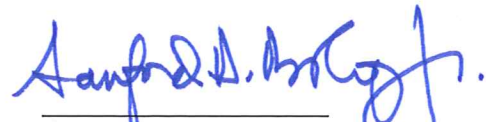
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Andy Barr  
Member of Congress




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John Barrow  
Member of Congress




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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress




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Tim Bishop  
Member of Congress



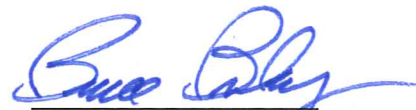
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Diane Black  
Member of Congress




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Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress




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Bruce Braley  
Member of Congress



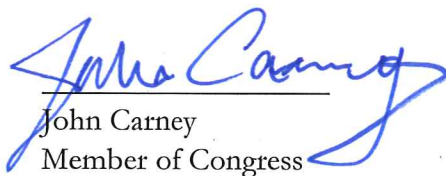
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Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress




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Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



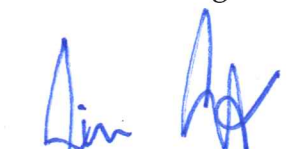
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John Carney  
Member of Congress



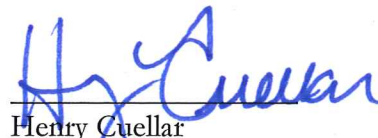
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Mike Coffman  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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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

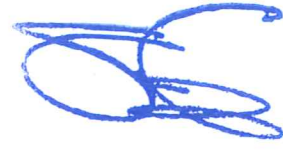
Alan Lowenthal

Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress


Cynthia M. Lummis

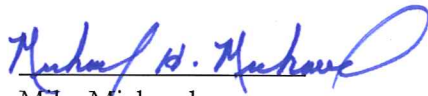
Cynthia M. Lummis  
Member of Congress


  
Dan Maffei  
Member of Congress


  
Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress


  
Jim Matheson  
Member of Congress


  
Mike McIntyre  
Member of Congress

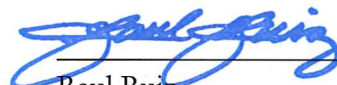
  
Mike Michaud  
Member of Congress


  
Patrick Murphy  
Member of Congress

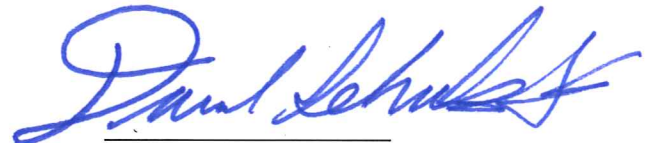
  
Bill Owens  
Member of Congress

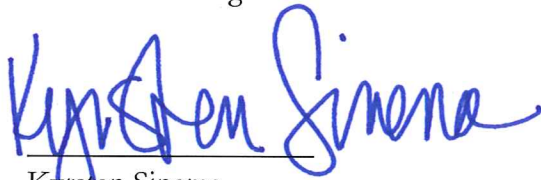
  
Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

  
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