

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3302

February 23, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Leader Schumer, and Leader McConnell:

We write to strongly urge you to advance appropriations bills without harmful poison pill policy riders to adequately fund the federal government in Fiscal Year 2024.

Nearly five months into the new Fiscal Year, controversial policy debates have consistently led us to the brink of a government shutdown, forcing Congress to pass continuing resolutions on three separate occasions. Given the serious challenges facing the nation and with a new set of deadlines looming in March, it is imperative that the House and Senate work cooperatively to complete the appropriations process in a timely manner.

We are extremely concerned that the House Republican Leadership continues to advocate for policy riders that have been shown time and time again to be unpopular with the American people and obstacles to completing the appropriations process. Clean funding bills – free of contentious poison pill riders that members of both parties oppose – represent the best path forward as we work to fulfill our duty to the American people to keep the federal government running.

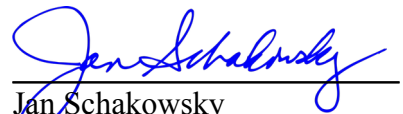
In addition, we strongly believe Congress must appropriate adequate funding for non-defense discretionary programs. Enacting domestic spending levels below the \$773 billion levels agreed by Speaker Johnson and Leader Schumer would threaten the health, safety, security, and economic well-being of our constituents.

Again, after a series of missed deadlines and missed opportunities, advancing appropriations legislation free of poison pill provisions represents the only responsible path forward. We owe it to the American people to expeditiously pass appropriations bills that meet the urgent needs of today and invest in America's future.

Sincerely,



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



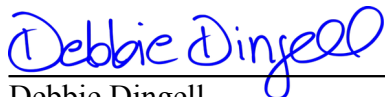
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



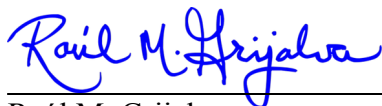
David Scott
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



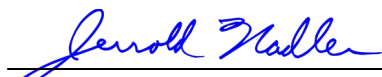
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress