

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 18, 2015

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 2051

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

With a two year budget agreement now in place, we understand that the Appropriations Committee is currently formulating legislation to fund the federal government for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2016. Unfortunately, nearly all of the appropriations bills approved this year have included deeply divisive policy riders that—if attached to an omnibus spending package—could lead to yet another unnecessary political impasse or even a damaging government shutdown. To avoid these harmful outcomes, we strongly urge you to bring forward legislation to fund the federal government that is free of poison-pill provisions.

Like many Americans, we remain hopeful that the passage of the Bipartisan Budget Act will mark an end to the deadlock and dysfunction which has characterized the Majority's leadership of the House. Unfortunately, attaching contentious policy riders to legislation to fund the government in FY 2016 would likely provoke another needless standoff on government spending. Instead of reviving the threat of a disastrous shutdown like the one the American people endured in 2013, we strongly urge you to act in the best traditions of the House and the best interests of the nation by bringing forward legislation free of divisive provisions to fund the federal government for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Sincerely,



Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

Adams
Aguilar
Ashford
Becerra
Bera
Beyer
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boyle
Robert Brady
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Fudge
Garamendi
Grayson
Al Green
Gene Green
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Gutierrez
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Eddie Bernice Johnson
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Kaptur
Keating
Robin Kelly
Kennedy
Kildee
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Lacy Clay
Langevin
Larsen
Larson
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis
Lieu
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lujan
Lujan Grisham
Lynch
Carolyn Maloney
Sean Patrick Maloney
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
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Meeks
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Gwen Moore

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Norcross
Norton
O'Rourke
Pallone
Pascrell
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Perlmutter
Peters
Plaskett
Pocan
Polis
David Price
Quigley
Rangel
Rice
Richmond
Ruiz
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Tim Ryan
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Sarbanes
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Bobby Scott
Serrano
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
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Adam Smith
Swalwell
Takai
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Mike Thompson
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Van Hollen
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