Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

December 13, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate

The Honorable Charles Schumer Minority Leader United States Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy Republican Leader United States House of Representatives

Dear Congressional Leadership:

As we wrap up the year and finalize the negotiations on Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations, we urge you to include *No Budget*, *No Pay* as part of any end-of-year spending package.

Appropriating funds is the most basic duty of Congress, but for the past 40 years, Congress has cut corners by passing short-term spending bills – Continuing Resolutions – that just keep government funded at existing levels.

When Congress fails to pass appropriations, the American people are hurt. Just this year, American families suffered under the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. Air traffic controllers, members of the Coast Guard, and fire safety officials worked without pay, while Members of Congress continued to receive their paychecks.

That is wrong, and we're urging you to move forward with *No Budget, No Pay* before the end of the year. The concept is simple: Members of Congress should not be paid if they don't pass appropriations. If Congress can't do its most basic task, then Members of Congress shouldn't get a paycheck.

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This proposal has bipartisan support and is already moving through Congress. It was approved by the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee in June, and is included as part of the *Prevent Government Shutdowns Act* (S. 1877).

Withholding paychecks from Members of Congress who fail to pass appropriations is an important step to prevent government shutdowns, which hurt the economy and millions of everyday Americans. But it's also an important step to promote fiscal responsibility.

We are elected to represent the citizens of our states and districts. When they don't do their job, there are consequences, and that same standard should apply to Congress. We look forward to continuing to work with you to make important reforms so Washington works better for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Rick Scott

United States Senator

lack Bergman

Member of Congress

David A. Perdue

United States Senator

Steve Daines

United States Senator

Martha McSally

United States Senator

Kyrsten Sinema

United States Senator

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.

Member of Congress

Cory Gardner

United States Senator

Ioni K. Ernst

United States Senator

Mike Gallagher

Member of Congress

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Brian Fitzpatrick Member of Congress

Andy Biggs

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Ross Spano

Member of Congress

Ron Wright

Member of Congress

Scott Tipton

Member of Congress

Robert E. Latta

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Member of Congress

Vern Buchanan

Member of Congress

Ralph Norman

Member of Congress

Abigail D. Spanberger

Member of Congress

Greg Gianforte,

Member of Congress