

U.S. Rep. Gallagher: Urges congressional leadership to pass no budget, no pay

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI) today joined a bipartisan group of his colleagues in sending a letter to House and Senate leadership urging them to pass No Budget, No Pay legislation as part of any year-end spending package. This would prevent Members of Congress from getting paid if they fail to do their most basic job: passing a budget.

The letter states: *“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...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.*”

Click [here](#) to watch a video of Rep. Gallagher discussing the letter.

Click [here](#) to read the letter. The full text is found below:

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, 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.

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.