

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 8, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
221 U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Reid:

It has been 48 days since the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1 funding the federal government for the remainder of FY 2011 and the Senate has yet to propose any alternative. The failure to act by our upper house is why we find ourselves in this grave situation. The mere threat of a government shutdown is a dangerous distraction for over 242,000 service men and women around the globe. As members of Congress, we took the same oath they did to protect and preserve the Constitution of the United States; while they risk their lives fulfilling this solemn obligation, we continue to bicker here at home.

This morning you declared, "The debate has nothing to do with the number; it has everything to do with women's health. That's the only issue that was left undone when we left the White House last night." If this is true, we strongly urge you to consider H.R. 1363 (*The Department of Defense and Further Additional Continuing Appropriations Act*), remove language you disagree with, and send your version back to the House for consideration.


A shutdown would deny millions of American families from receiving essential life services, negatively impact over 800,000 federal employees, and set a terrible example for our children and the rest of the world. We strongly urge you to act immediately to meet our constitutional obligations to the American people and keep the government running.


Respectfully,

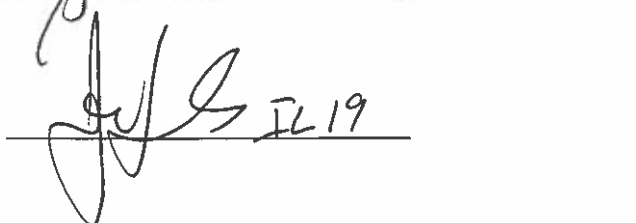


Ralph M. Hall


Ed Markey



Ben Ray Lujan


John Cornyn


Jeff Sessions

Sam Cole de-4

Ed Strawn OH-14

K. T. Hall TX-11

John M. Smith SD-12

Joe W. Wilson, SC-02

John R. Pless MS-4

Ernest Galt

Mike Kelly PA-03

Tom Marino PA-10
Tech #4

Tom R. Clark PA-19

Ed Whitfield KY #1

Allen Marzullo (re 16)

Larry Buckhorn IN-08

Robert B. Adams

Tom Bartlett PA-11

Ray White IL-17

Michael H. Grimm NY-13

Joe Walsh IL-8

Robert D. Hall

Bill Singer TX-26

Virginia Fox NC-05

Joe Kil NV-03

Pat Till OH-12

William J. J. J. J.
18ms - 18

Walter B. Jones NC-3