

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 7, 2022

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Republican Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell,

We write to express our strong opposition to passing the Pelosi-Schumer spending bill in the lame duck. The American people sent an unmistakable message in the November midterm elections, making clear that they want a Republican-led House to serve as check on the unfettered spending of the current Democrat-controlled Congress.

For the Senate to ram through a so-called “omnibus” bill—which would fund the entirety of the Pelosi-Schumer spending agenda through most of next year—would utterly disempower the new Republican House from enacting our shared priorities.

Locking the new Congress into yet another year of Democrat policies would flout the will of the voters and prevent the incoming Republican majority in the House of Representatives and the newly elected Republican Senators from moderating the reckless policy agenda of the last two years. Moreover, adding an increase or suspension of the debt ceiling for another year would issue Democrats a blank check and inevitably add trillions more to our crushing national debt.

Since the start of the pandemic, we have seen a massive surge in federal spending – with \$6 trillion<sup>1</sup> committed to COVID-19 relief and our national debt topping \$31.4 trillion for the first time.<sup>2</sup> This dramatic increase in the money supply has spurred record inflation throughout every sector of our economy, which is severely hurting the American people. With the current rate of inflation at 7.7%, working families are reeling—including from soaring gas, food, and housing costs.<sup>3</sup> It is incumbent on us to fight for working-class Americans and hold this administration and their Democrat allies in Congress accountable.

We need to stop Washington’s pattern of ramming through unaccounted-for spending packages. Instead, we should pass a short-term funding bill, which would allow Representatives and Senators-elect to give their constituents a meaningful voice in the

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<sup>1</sup> “*COVID Money Tracker*,” The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (accessed Dec. 6, 2022), <https://www.covidmoneytracker.org>.

<sup>2</sup> Understanding the National Debt | U.S. Treasury Fiscal Data

<sup>3</sup> Consumer Price Index Summary - 2022 M10 Results (bls.gov)

process early next year. The majority of American voters want a new Congress to determine how the government should be funded.

We call on you to oppose the Pelosi-Schumer spending bill, with the recognition that a new Congress will enable us to use the appropriations process to, among many priorities:

1. Confront reckless spending and out-of-control inflation;
2. Strengthen our military to focus on our most pressing national security challenges;
3. Mitigate the crisis at our southern border and end the open-border policies that allow illicit-fentanyl to pour across our border;
4. Ensure that federal funding for education considers the input of parents; and
5. Stop the Biden administration from hiring 87,000 IRS agents to target hardworking American taxpayers.

We should respect the will of the American people expressed through the November election and allow the newly elected 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to determine funding and priorities for the federal government in the upcoming year.

Respectfully,



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Rand Paul  
United States Senator



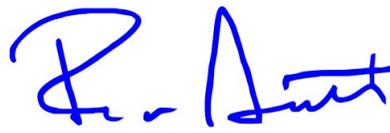
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Ted Cruz  
United States Senator



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Ron Johnson  
United States Senator



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Rick Scott  
United States Senator



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Mike Braun  
United States Senator



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Mike Lee  
United States Senator