



June 4, 2018

Dear Members of Congress,

I write today on behalf of more than 3.2 million Americans for Prosperity activists across all 50 states to offer our strong support for the swift passage of President Trump's rescission package. The Trump administration has put forth a strong package of recommendations that would eliminate \$15 billion in wasteful, unobligated spending and constitute an important first step toward restoring some semblance of fiscal sanity in Washington. Members in both the House and Senate have put forth bills that would approve these recommendations.

We are encouraged to see not one but two legislative vehicles available to pass these important, common-sense reforms. We urge you and your colleagues to work diligently to ensure this bill is passed and sent to the President well ahead of the June 22 deadline required by law—the American people deserve better than last-minute dramas and the politics of brinkmanship.

Spending in Washington has continued to increase substantially under Congresses and Presidents from both parties. At times, it seems as though the only thing Republicans and Democrats can actually agree on is more government spending. This perpetuates an unsustainable path and that is unacceptable. For the sake of our country today and younger generations that will inherit the consequences of our decisions, lawmakers must put an end to runaway spending.

This is not a problem that can be fixed overnight, and, to be sure, President Trump's rescission package is not a silver bullet. The proposal is, however, a crucial first step and – and more importantly, a test of whether Congress is truly willing to make the kind of tough budgetary choices that families and businesses across America make every single day.

Passage of the President's rescission package would be a constructive down payment on broader and long-overdue spending reform, and set the right tone for the FY 2019 budget that appropriators are currently crafting. Congress should build on the rescission package with bigger and more comprehensive savings since it will have the ability to roll back funds for the entire year. This will set the stage for that fundamental assessment of all federal programs, on both the mandatory and discretionary sides of the ledger.

We strongly urge both chambers of Congress to swiftly take up and pass this rescission package, and we stand ready to work with any lawmaker who will work for further spending restraint in the FY 2019 appropriations bills. These crucial actions can finally help get the federal government back on the road toward responsible spending.

Sincerely,
Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity