

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2015

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Minority Leader Reid,

We write to express our strong concern that Senate Democrats are blocking debate on a critical bill that would fund the Department of Homeland Security's operations for Fiscal Year 2015 and defund unconstitutional programs created unilaterally by President Obama.

Three times, you and other members of your caucus have prevented even a debate of the House-passed Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill. While we understand that you and many of your Democrat colleagues are opposed to the provisions in the House-passed bill that would defund President Obama's effective rewriting of our immigration laws, you should at least support debating the merits of such an important funding bill and offer amendments to the provisions you wish to change.

However, you have repeatedly obstructed even debating this bill in order to protect President Obama's unconstitutional acts and shield Senators of your party – many of whom have publicly stated that they oppose the President's unilateral actions – from voting on the substance of the House-passed bill. It is utterly appalling that you and other Senate Democrats believe that protecting the President's unconstitutional actions is more important than funding a Department tasked with keeping Americans safe.

By preventing the Senate from taking up the House-passed bill, you are also denying the American people a fair debate on this issue. And a fair debate is what the American people want – they fundamentally disagree with President Obama's actions and believe that he has unlawfully acted alone. For example, a Washington Post/ABC News poll last month found that 57% of registered voters believe that President Obama's grant of deferred action should be blocked.

President Obama's actions are tilting the scales of our government in the executive's favor, threatening to unravel our system of checks and balances and imperiling all our liberties. The House of Representatives has acted decisively to defend the Constitution from this clear and present danger by voting to defund the president's executive actions. For the sake of our nation, our two bodies must stand together on a bipartisan basis. But in order to do this, the Senate Democrat caucus must cease to play politics with the Constitution. You must end your filibuster of the House-passed bill and allow it to proceed to the floor for consideration. History will record our actions and how we honor the trust placed in all of us by the American people.



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
House Judiciary Committee

Sincerely,



Leah Wagon MO-02

Blake Farentz ^{Texas} 27

Carrie Rice SC-7

Ken Yoder KS-3

Markus MD-01

Michael B. Dink MI-8

Ken Calvert CA

Scott Harris NJ-5

Paul AR-09

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Lamar Smith TX-21

Mark V. Ky W-2

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Greg Forbes VA-04

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Frank Starks AZ-8

Curt Starks NV-4

Kim [Signature] FL-11

Bill Josey FL-8

Burt Muth KY-2

Gregg Harper MS-3

Earl F. Bally Carter

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J. H. MO-08

J. J. L. IL-15

Blaine MS-3

Mo Brooks AL-5

Steve King IA-9

Charles WA-05

C. M. FL-10

MICA FL-7

W. H. CA-49

Tim MS-01

Eric W. OH-2

Tom MN-06

Paul GA-3

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J. Jordan

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Anthony AK

Susanne Brooks (TX)

Tom Marino PA 10

John R. Little (TX)

Ryan Costello (PA-6)

Arthur Kelly PA 3

John G. Bell

John M. VA 5

Barbara Conrad

John Cullum TX-7

John Carter TX 31

Sam Johnson TX 13

John Gray TX 12

John TX-2

Brian TX-17

Richard Hahn NC-8

Ryan TX-19

Orion Basin TX 31

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E. Whitfill KY-1

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John GT Thompson PA-05

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John Dingell TX-26

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Bob Roberts TX-04

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Maxter Poly

Walt Puttner

W. Post

Paul Cook

Stachmann

Borg Lundermilk

Thm

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A.P.O.