Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 7, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Steve Scalise Majority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Commitment to House Framework in Reconciliation

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Scalise,

We are fully committed to passing a reconciliation bill that achieves the objectives we all support, which include extending President Trump's tax cuts, growing our economy, securing our borders, unleashing American energy, and ensuring peace through strength.

Additionally, we remain firmly committed to ensuring the bill is genuinely fiscally responsible. We reaffirm that our support depends, at minimum, on the bill's strict adherence to the House framework for instructions contained in the concurrent budget resolution (Section 4001 of H.Con.Res.14). We also appreciate your assurance that no measure will be brought to the floor unless it fully meets this standard.

The Big Picture

America's fiscal path is unsustainable and worsening. The national debt has exceeded \$36 trillion and is growing by nearly \$2 trillion each year. Annual interest costs are on track to surpass \$1 trillion, overtaking what we spend on Medicare or national defense. Federal outlays remain at record highs, and the recent strain in Treasury markets makes it clear that we can no longer count on historically low interest rates. We must move decisively to restore market confidence and put the budget on a sustainable path.

Minimum Criteria for Our Support

Under the House's framework, the reconciliation bill must not add to the deficit. The House budget resolution assumes that enacting President Trump's agenda, including extending the 2017 tax cuts, will generate \$2.5 trillion in additional revenue through economic growth. This means that all additional tax cuts or increases in spending above this level must be offset. To fully extend and build upon the 2017 tax cuts, this means that the reconciliation bill must include at least \$2 trillion in verifiable savings either through spending reductions or scaling back the size of the tax package. If savings fall short, the Ways and Means Committee's instruction must be lowered dollar-for-dollar to keep the reconciliation bill within the agreed limits.

In practice, the Ways and Means Committee's instruction may not exceed \$2.5 trillion more than the debt reduction achieved by all other committees.

Deficit Reduction in Other Committees	Maximum Ways and Means Instruction
\$2.0 trillion	\$4.5 trillion
\$1.5 trillion	\$4.0 trillion
\$1.0 trillion	\$3.5 trillion

Critically, the deficit reduction target must be met with real, enforceable spending cuts – not budget gimmicks. The final bill must deliver structural reforms that strengthen long-term growth and produce long-term savings.

Bottom Line

A \$2 trillion reduction in spending may sound substantial. However, it equals only 2.3 percent of projected federal outlays over the next decade and only reduces the rate of growth in spending. Even with those savings, annual spending is expected to grow from \$7 trillion to \$10 trillion over the next 10 years, and debt will exceed \$50 trillion by 2035.

The House reconciliation instructions are binding. They set a floor for savings, not a ceiling. We must hold that line on fiscal discipline to put the country back on a sustainable path.

We are more committed than ever to making that happen.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Smucker

Member of Congress

Josh Brecheen

Andy Biggs

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Tim Burchett

Member of Congress

Member of Congres

Eric Burlison

Member of Congress

Michael Cloud

Member of Congress

Andrew S. Clyde

Member of Congress

Andrew S. Clyde

Elijah Crane

Member of Congress

Brandon Gill

Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Rich McCormick, MD, MBA

Member of Congress

Ralph Norman

Member of Congress

Andy Ogles

Member of Congress

Scott Perry Member of Congress Andy Harris, M.D.

Member of Congress

auxuD.

Diana Harshbarges Diana Harshbarger

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Kobert F. Onder, Jr.

Member of Congress

Chip Roy

Member of Congress

David Schweikert Member of Congress

Victoria Spartz

Member of Congress

Marlin A. Stutzman Member of Congress

Beth Van Duyne Member of Congress Keith Self

Member of Congress

W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress

Tom Tiffany

Member of Congr

Member of Congress

Ryan K. Zinke

Member of Congress