Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Committee on Appropriations H-307, U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

As of April 2024, the national debt of the United States exceeds \$36 trillion. We currently operate under a \$2 trillion annual deficit and growing. Spending on interest payments alone eclipsed defense spending last year. The national debt represents a dire threat to our national security, and we must take steps to reduce federal spending.

President Trump and his Administration have led the fight against waste, fraud, and abuse in federal government programs. President Trump's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) has revealed some of the worst abuses against American taxpayers, most notably within the liberal U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Under the Biden Administration, USAID undermined traditional American policies and core principles across the world through the financing and support of radical leftist priorities. The Appropriations process provides Congress with an opportunity to demonstrate our shared commitment to fighting waste, fraud, and abuse by codifying DOGE cuts and embracing the America First agenda.

On April 10, 2025, Congress adopted the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Resolution, which set an ambitious goal of reducing an average of \$500 billion in annual government spending over the next 10 years, across mandatory and discretionary programs. In order to meet the budget resolution spending goal in the annual appropriations process, we respectfully request that the Appropriations Committee write and report bills consistent with President Trump's FY26 budget request that include adjustments initiated by DOGE and reduce non-defense, non-veterans, discretionary spending to pre-COVID levels.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Andy Biggs

Member of Congress

Ralph Norman Scott Perry Josh Brecheen Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress Marlin A. Stutzman Byron Donalds Mark Harris Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress Tom Tiffany Barry Moore Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress Mary & Miller Mary E. Miller Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. Keith Self Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress Indiew S. Clyde Andrew S. Clyde Eric Burlison Member of Congress Member of Congress Member of Congress Diana Harshbarger Elijah Crane Andy Ogles

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress