

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 10, 2013

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairwoman of the Senate Budget Committee
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman of the House Budget Committee
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Murray and Chairman Ryan:

I write to commend you both on your recent efforts to return to regular order with each of you crafting your respective budget resolutions, moving them through committee, and openly debating them on the Senate and House floor. Now is the time to show the American public that Congress can do its job, and encourage you to go to conference to begin working on a final bipartisan, bicameral budget resolution.

As a proponent of holding Members of Congress responsible, I introduced No Budget, No Pay to ensure both chambers work together in a nonpartisan manner to make the hard decisions that our nation's current fiscal situation requires. While No Budget, No Pay has helped to gather momentum, resulting in each chamber passing a concurrent budget resolution, we cannot stop short of getting a final blueprint for our nation's future.

There is a lot of hard work ahead as we get our nation moving in the right direction once more, but Members of Congress must lead by example providing a roadmap for getting our fiscal house back in order. Restoring order to the budget process is an important first step; it is the framework by which Congress has executed its Constitutional responsibility to appropriate funds. Failure to do so will result in continued frustration by the American people with Washington's inability to produce real results.

I encourage you to work together in conference on producing a bipartisan, bicameral budget. Changing the way Congress does business will ultimately restore the confidence of the American people in their government. I look forward to working with you to promote common sense fiscal policies like No Budget, No Pay and proper budgeting practices to help move our nation forward. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Dean Heller