

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 13, 2016

COMMITTEES:

FINANCE

BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND  
TRANSPORTATION

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Honorable Mike Enzi  
Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee  
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders  
Ranking Member of the Senate Budget  
Committee  
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Enzi and Ranking Member Sanders:

I write to commend the Senate Budget Committee for its current work on examining Congress' broken budget process. Congress' most basic responsibility is to develop a budget and pass all individual appropriations bills on time. Unfortunately, under both Republican and Democratic control, the Senate and House of Representatives have consistently failed at these basic tasks. I believe we can do better.

As your committee considers possible solutions to our budgeting process, I respectfully encourage you to closely examine what I believe is the best solution to reestablishing our nation's fiscal sanity, namely enacting my No Budget, No Pay Act (S. 39). The No Budget, No Pay Act is bipartisan legislation that simply requires Members of Congress in both chambers to pass a concurrent budget resolution, as well as all 12 regular appropriations bills by the beginning of the fiscal year. If Members of Congress fail to do so, then they will not be paid. While I understand that some are hesitant to take such a bold initiative, I believe that there must be accountability for failing to do their jobs. Moreover, I believe my No Budget, No Pay Act will produce more long-term budget agreements, less continuing resolutions, and fewer omnibus appropriations bills.

In your positions as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, I would encourage you, and all the members of the Committee, to strongly consider the No Budget, No Pay Act. Chairman Enzi, I have appreciated your support and co-sponsorship of this important legislation in the past. It is time that all Members of Congress be accountable and meet the American public's demand to fix our broken budget process, and the No Budget, No Pay Act is the best solution. Washington should no longer be a pain free zone. I appreciate your consideration of this request and stand ready to work with you as you embark on this endeavor.

Sincerely,



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DEAN HELLER  
U.S. Senator

cc: Senator Charles Grassley  
Senator Jeff Sessions  
Senator Mike Crapo  
Senator Lindsey Graham  
Senator Rob Portman  
Senator Pat Toomey  
Senator Ron Johnson  
Senator Kelly Ayotte  
Senator Roger Wicker  
Senator Bob Corker  
Senator David Perdue  
Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Ron Wyden  
Senator Debbie Stabenow  
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse  
Senator Mark Warner  
Senator Jeff Merkley  
Senator Tammy Baldwin  
Senator Tim Kaine  
Senator Angus King