## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 4, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden.

We write today concerned about your proposed \$1.9 trillion emergency spending proposal related to COVID relief. We believe federal agencies should use funds that have not been committed or disbursed and are currently available before Congress considers another massive emergency spending bill.

Congress has already provided \$4 trillion to respond to the COVID pandemic over the last year, and the last \$900 billion in funding was signed into law just over a month ago on December 27, 2020. The official government tracker for agency spending on the COVID response was last updated with data through December 31, 2020, and it may not include new government commitments. However, according to a nongovernmental tracker of COVID relief funds by the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, \$1.3 trillion currently remains available for the federal response to the pandemic.<sup>2</sup>

The wellbeing and security of American citizens is our priority. That said, solutions today should not cause tomorrow's problems. In the case of this unchecked spending, we are on a dangerous path with an unsustainable fiscal crisis looming.

Congress should not consider another trillion-dollar emergency spending bill if federal agencies have yet to get money out the door from previous COVID relief spending bills. At this time, with an estimated \$1.3 trillion available to your Administration, it would be misguided for Congress to move forward with additional funds without assessing the impact that existing resources will have on preventing the spread of COVID and recovery efforts.

The U.S. national debt is nearly \$28 trillion, and we have experienced a deficit every year since 2001. Moreover, we face numerous challenges at home and abroad that will continue beyond the pandemic. Our current spending levels and national debt are unsustainable and must be addressed immediately.

<sup>1</sup> https://datalab.usaspending.gov/americas-finance-guide/deficit/trends/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.covidmoneytracker.org/

As you and your Administration continue to respond to the COVID pandemic, we urge you to use available resources and inform Congress on the status of those funds before Congress debates additional emergency spending.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Kat Cammack

Member of Congress

Jim Banks

Member of Congress

W. Gregory Steube

Member of Congress

Bill Posey

Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert

Member of Congress

Yvette Herrell

Member of Congress

Adrian Smith

Member of Congress

Andy Barr

Member of Congress

Andy Harris, M.D.

Member of Congress

Barry Moore

Member of Congress

Ben Cline

Member of Congress

Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M.

Member of Congress

Bryan Steil

Member of Congress

David McKinley Member of Congress