## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515—6501

September 22, 2024

Dear friends and colleagues,

This letter is to provide a brief update on our path forward for government funding. Because the end of the fiscal year is upon us, and Senate Democrats failed to pass a single appropriations bill or negotiate with the House on an acceptable topline number for FY 2025, a continuing resolution is the only option that remains.

As you all know, we presented a plan last week for a six-month CR accompanied by the *SAVE Act*, so that we could both meet our funding obligations and do all within our power to ensure election security. Due to the urgency of that issue, the American people deserve nothing less.

Since we fell a bit short of the goal line, an alternative plan is now required. The feedback and ideas from everyone have been very helpful, and next week the House will take the initiative and pass a clean, three-month CR to prevent the Senate from jamming us with a bill loaded with billions in new spending and unrelated provisions. Our legislation will be a very narrow, bare-bones CR including only the extensions that are absolutely necessary.

While this is not the solution any of us prefer, it is the most prudent path forward under the present circumstances. As history has taught and current polling affirms, shutting the government down less than 40 days from a fateful election would be an act of political malpractice. (*See, e.g.*, the McLaughlin & Associates <u>survey</u> showing that nearly two-thirds of likely voters oppose a government shutdown, including swing voters and large percentages of the Republican base.)

From now until election day, I will continue with my tireless efforts and singular focus of growing our majority for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress. It is my great honor to serve with you all in these historic days. The future of our exceptional nation directly depends upon our success, and I am confident that together we will prevail!

God bless,

Mike Johnson