

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 23, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader Hoyer, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

Our constituents sent us to Congress to put an end to political games and to find bipartisan solutions that move this country forward. Our current political stalemate is punishing families, destabilizing our economy, weakening our national security, and embarrassing our great country on the world stage. As of today, the House has voted ten times to reopen the government, and the Senate has refused to take up any of those bills. Both parties must come together to end the brinkmanship and reopen the government, and then follow up with a long-term, bipartisan solution that ensures strong, effective border security.

The American people want to see their leaders talking to one another rather than at one another through the press. In an era of divided government, the reality is that only a bipartisan solution will reopen the government, and that requires the leadership of both parties to come together. We therefore urge you to hold a bipartisan, bicameral summit that brings together House and Senate leaders to hold a substantive, transparent discussion on a path forward to reopen the government. That discussion should be designed to produce legislation that will quickly pass both chambers of Congress.

While the President indeed has the ability to veto that legislation, Congress also has the ability to override that veto. The legislative branch should be prepared to exercise its constitutional authority to reopen the government.

We came to Congress to represent our constituents—and they are demanding action. We can and should respond accordingly.

Sincerely,

*Stephan*

Rep. Stephanie Murphy (FL-07)  
Co-Chair for Administration, Blue Dog Coalition

*Tom O'Halloran*

Rep. Tom O'Halloran (AZ-01)  
Co-Chair for Policy, Blue Dog Coalition

*J. Luis Correa*

Rep. Lou Correa (CA-46)  
Co-Chair for Communications, Blue Dog Coalition

*Anthony J. Brindisi*

Rep. Anthony Brindisi (NY-22)  
Co-Chair for Whip, Blue Dog Coalition

*Bradley Scott Schneider*

Bradley Scott Schneider

*Chris*

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*Makie Sherill*

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*Agnel Grunberger*

*Charlie Crist*

*Lee*

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*Sanford D. Bishop Jr.*

*Ben McAdams*

*Kent Schuder*

*Jim*

*Joe*

*David Sutt*

*Daniel Lipinski*