

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 18<sup>th</sup> 2024

Dear Republican House Colleagues,

As you know, the Senate passed a supplemental foreign aid package in February to send \$95 Billion overseas without any border security, despite months of insistence from Republican leadership in the House and Senate that foreign aid must be coupled with provisions to address the crisis at our Southern border. This bill was jammed through the Senate with only a minority of Senate Republicans supporting it. The supplemental appropriations bill provided aid to Gaza without meaningful guardrails to prevent money from falling into the hands of our enemy, Hamas, continued to fund frivolous non-lethal assistance to Ukraine and European allies, such as climate-change resiliency and green energy, and proposed to give \$60 billion to Ukraine, more than the entire budget of the Marine Corps for FY2023.

Senate Republicans tried to modify the legislation and filed more than 150 amendments to address the bill's shortcoming. Despite promising a "fair and open amendment process," Senate Majority Leader Schumer refused to allow amendments to be voted on to improve the bill. Worse, Senator Schumer jammed the bill through the Senate in the dead of night. At the time, Speaker Mike Johnson rejected the bill, rightfully noting that it was "silent on the most pressing issue facing our country," namely, the border, and insisted that we must "secure America's own border before sending additional foreign aid around the world."

Now, it appears House Republican Leadership has reversed course and is planning to send an almost identical bill to the Senate. The rule to set up the House's consideration of this bill, a procedural gimmick known as a "MIRV," deliberately deceives the American people. The rule allows the people's Representatives to vote individually on bills for Ukraine, Taiwan, and Israel that are then combined into one legislative vehicle without having to take a vote on the final, combined package. This tactic was a favorite of Speaker Pelosi, who used it at least three times to push the Democrats' most controversial policies. Worse, the watered-down border security provisions would be sent to the Senate in a separate legislative vehicle that will simply collect dust on Sen. Schumer's desk and never be considered on the floor.

Members who vote for the rule to set up this sham process will be effectively supporting the Senate passed supplemental that the majority of the Senate Republican conference already rejected and signaling to Leadership that it is fine to steamroll the priorities of rank-and-file member through this deceptive process. If this is allowed to occur, House Leadership will bypass members of its own Conference to work with Democrats whenever they cannot enact the priorities of Washington, D.C. insiders. This will be detrimental to individual member rights and betray the American people they are elected to represent. As the Speaker has committed previously on multiple occasions, "we cannot be involved in securing the border of Ukraine or other nations until we secure our own."

We urge you to uphold your commitment to putting the interests and security of the American people first by rejecting this rule and the dangerous precedent this unacceptable tactic will create.

Sincerely,

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