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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4901

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

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April 8, 2011

Mr. Dan Strodel
Chief Administrative Officer
U.S. House of Representatives
HB-30
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Strodel:

I understand that if a lapse in appropriations and reduction in government operations occur, the men and women serving in the military, along with their families, will not receive their paychecks during this time. In contrast, I understand that Members of Congress will continue to be paid if a lapse in appropriations and reduction in government operation occur.

Members of our military who are bravely serving in combat, abroad or here at home should not have to worry about whether their families are able to pay their bills on time as a result of a failure to reach agreement on spending levels for the remainder of the fiscal year.

I do not wish to receive compensation if our troops are not being paid. I voted in favor to withhold the compensation of Members of Congress in the event of a lapse of appropriation but this legislation is still pending action in the Senate. As a result, should a lapse of appropriations occur, I am requesting that you hold my pay until funds are appropriated for uninterrupted compensation for the men and women in our armed forces.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Sincerely,



Paul Ryan
Chairman
Committee on Budget
U.S. House of Representatives