



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

October 4, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Madame Speaker,

We urge you to immediately appoint conferees to the FY 08 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act (H.R. 2642) and to expedite the appointment of conferees to the FY 08 Homeland Security Appropriations Act (H.R. 2638), the FY 08 State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Act (H.R. 2764), and the FY 08 Transportation, HUD Appropriations Act (H.R. 3074).

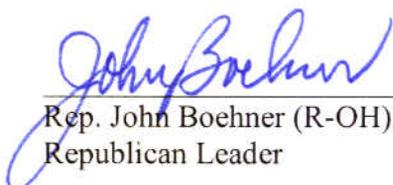
This week marks the beginning of fiscal year 2008, yet Congress has failed to adopt a single stand-alone FY 08 appropriations conference report.

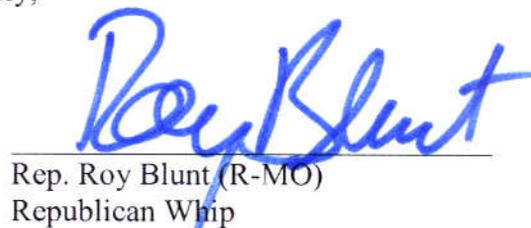
In the case of the FY 08 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, Senate conferees were named over three weeks ago, after the House and Senate passed their respective bills with overwhelming bipartisan support. Yet, the House has not moved to do likewise. Following several news reports during the past week, we are concerned that this inaction may be due to plans by the Majority to use the measure as the vehicle for an omnibus appropriations bill that could include billions in wasteful and unnecessary spending. Adequate funding for health care and housing for our veterans and men and women in uniform is a top priority for Congress, and their needs should take precedence over partisan politics.

As for the FY 08 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, it has been 70 days since the Senate appointed conferees. It has been 28 days for the FY 08 State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Act and 22 days for the FY 08 Transportation, HUD Appropriations Act. And still, not a single House conferee has been named.

Madame Speaker, we stand ready to negotiate all four of these bills, and once again, urge you to immediately appoint conferees to the FY 08 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act. Those who serve and have served our nation should not have to wait any longer.

Sincerely,


Rep. John Boehner (R-OH)
Republican Leader


Rep. Roy Blunt (R-MO)
Republican Whip



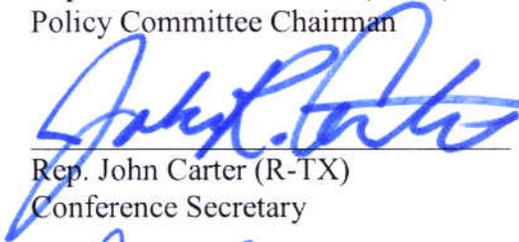
Rep. Adam Putnam (R-FL)
Conference Chairman



Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI)
Policy Committee Chairman



Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)
Conference Vice-Chair



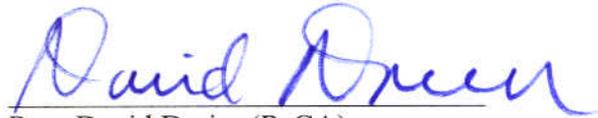
Rep. John Carter (R-TX)
Conference Secretary



Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)
NRCC Chairman



Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA)
Chief Deputy Whip



Rep. David Dreier (R-CA)
Rules Committee Ranking Republican