

August 22, 2018

Dear Senator,

As a part of the Clean Budget Coalition, we, the undersigned organizations write to ask you to oppose adding ideological poison pill policy riders to the Senate FY 2019 minibus III made up of the Labor, Education, Health & Human Services, and Defense appropriations bills.

Time and time again, members of Congress attempt to quietly slip in special interest wish list items that couldn't pass as standalone legislation into must-pass funding packages as poison pill riders.

Appropriations bills must not be misused to undermine essential safeguards. Slipping unrelated and damaging issues into must-pass appropriations bills as a means to win approval is a dangerous strategy for the public.

Poison pill riders are unpopular and damaging, and the public opposes using them to roll back public protections. The American people support policies to:

- Safeguard fair and safe workplaces;
- Restrain Wall Street abuses;
- Ensure safe and healthy food and products;
- Secure our air, land, water and wildlife;
- Guard against consumer rip-offs and corporate wrongdoing;
- Defend our campaign finance and election systems;
- Provide access to justice and fair housing;
- Protect civil rights; and
- Guarantee continued access to vital health care services including reproductive health care, and more.

We urge Senators to abide by the funding numbers agreed upon in the deal to fund the essential programs our nation needs for FY19, push for clean versions of appropriation bills in conference with the House of Representatives, and to continue to reject any flawed spending measures that includes poison pill policy riders.

Sincerely,

National Groups

2020 Vision

Action on Smoking and Health

AFL-CIO

Alaska Wilderness League

American Association for Justice

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

American Federation of Teachers

American Rivers

Americans for Financial Reform

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Bend the Arc Jewish Action

Black Women's Health Imperative

Center for Progressive Reform

Center for Reproductive Rights

Center for Responsible Lending

Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI)

Clean Water Action

Coalition on Human Needs

Common Cause
Communications Workers of America (CWA)
Compassion & Choices
Consumer Action
Consumer Federation of America
Defenders of Wildlife
Democracy 21
Earthjustice
Economic Policy Institute Policy Center
Endangered Species Coalition
Environment America
Farmworker Justice
Food & Water Watch
Friends of the Earth, US
Green Science Policy Institute
Grounded Solutions Network
Hip Hop Caucus
Hispanic Federation
Homeowners Against Deficient Dwellings
Humane Society Legislative Fund
Impact Fund
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)
International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW
Jewish Women International
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
League of Conservation Voters
League of Women Voters of the United States
Main Street Alliance
MomsRising
NARAL Pro-Choice America
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association of Consumer Advocates
National Birth Equity Collaborative
National Center for Lesbian Rights
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low income clients)
National Council of Jewish Women
National Education Association
National Employment Law Project
National Employment Lawyers Association
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Partnership for Women & Families
National WIC Association
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Progressive Alliance
PAI
People For the American Way
People's Action Institute

PLACE

Planned Parenthood Federation of America
PolicyLink
Population Institute
Power Shift Network
Protect All Children's Environment
Public Citizen
Public Knowledge
Rachel Carson Council
Restore America's Estuaries
Safe Climate Campaign
Service Employees International Union
Sierra Club
Southern Environmental Law Center
The Arc of the United States
The Wilderness Society
U.S. PIRG
Union of Concerned Scientists
United Church of Christ, OC Inc.
Voices for Progress
Witness to Mass Incarceration
Woodstock Institute
Workplace Fairness

State and Local Groups

California Reinvestment Coalition - CA
Citizens' Environmental Coalition - NY
Environmental Advocates of New York - NY
Equality California - CA
Florida Alliance for Consumer Protection - FL
Hispanic Federation - CT
Hispanic Federation - FL
New Jersey Association on Correction - NJ
New Jersey Citizen Action - NJ
New Yorkers for Responsible Lending (NYRL) - NY
Public Justice Center - MD
Save Our Sky Blue Waters - MN
Herd on the Hill - Washington DC
Labor of Love Safety Training - Charles Town, WV
Save EPA Ann Arbor - MI