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June 3, 2013

Chairman Paul Ryan
Committee on the Budget
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Ryan:

Thank you for your letter of May 31, 2013. I appreciate your desire and commitment to achieving a final resolution of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014 with the Senate. Your leadership on the budget challenges facing the Nation is unmatched.

I agree with you that, pending a conference report on the budget, it is both timely and proper to ensure that we have the necessary budget enforcement mechanisms in place as we begin the annual appropriations process. Despite the fact that the President's Budget was submitted more than two months after the statutory deadline, we must move forward on the annual appropriations process if we have any hope of meeting the deadlines imposed by the end of the fiscal year.

To that end, I intend to recommend to the Committee on Rules that we agree to your request for the inclusion of budget enforcement language in the rule that will be considered by the Committee later today. This will allow you to continue your negotiations with the Senate and allow the House to begin its work on the appropriations bills, which I believe is a responsible approach.

Thank you again for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Pete Sessions

cc: The Honorable Louise Slaughter, Committee on Rules
The Honorable Chris Van Hollen, Committee on the Budget