Thursday, August 19, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Speaker,

We are writing to you in support of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and their call for passing the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation package prior to the passage of the bipartisan infrastructure bill. This is imperative if the country is going to both avert the worst of the climate crisis, protect millions of immigrants from deportation, and ensure voters receive the economic recovery they were promised.

On August 12th, nine Representatives urged you to consider passing the bipartisan bill before the reconciliation process is through. We must remind you that these nine Representatives pale in comparison to the 96 Congressional Caucus Representatives who have made it consistently clear since early summer that they would not vote for any bipartisan bill before a bold reconciliation package is passed first. And these nine Representatives' obstruction threatens Democrats' chances of passing the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation package we desperately need right now.

The nine Representatives state the risk as "unnecessary delays," but the climate crisis is here and the priority must be the boldest reconciliation package to stop it – which can only happen if it is passed first. This summer, heat waves are taking the lives of hundreds. Wildfires and hurricanes are only intensifying. We cannot afford any political maneuvers that undermine a guaranteed path towards at least \$3.5 trillion of investments to combat climate change, uplift American families, pass a pathway to citizenship for millions of immigrants, expand healthcare and secure our economic future.

Anything less than this \$3.5 trillion package also risks disillusioning Democratic voters, who put their lives on hold to elect Democrats – all with the belief you would deliver meaningful change to their communities.

Speaker Pelosi, we applaud your current approach and call on you to make good on your promise to pass the reconciliation package before the bipartisan bill. We urge you to use House Democrats' leverage and power to ensure the boldest reconciliation package is passed. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Sunrise Movement
Justice Democrats
United We Dream
Battle Born Collective