Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 8, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
H-232, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

On November 4, 2014, the American people went to the polls and sent a sound rebuke to the President's "phone and pen" policies that ignore the rule of law. Despite making their voices heard, on November 20 President Obama took unprecedented executive action to administratively delay the deportation of approximately 5 million people living illegally in the U.S. Like you, Mr. Speaker, we fundamentally believe the President has violated the Constitution and overstepped his legal authority. As a result, Congress must take immediate action, using our constitutionally given power of the purse, to defend the rule of law and eliminate all funding for this executive action on immigration.

Our first opportunity to do this came during consideration of H.R. 83, when 67 Representatives offered an amendment to defund the President's amnesty. However, various members of the conference, including Leadership, said this wasn't the right vehicle. Instead, we were guaranteed by Leadership that the House would stand its ground against the President's unconstitutional actions in January. Now we ask that Leadership honor their commitment, and bring the FY2015 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill to the floor, with language removing all available funding streams to implement the President's executive action.

We all agree that Congress must take steps to address our broken immigration system. But the crisis facing the House isn't about immigration; it is about defending the separation of powers and the rule of law. As established by our founding fathers in the Constitution, only Congress has the power to establish the rule of naturalization, make, or change the laws. These changes cannot be determined at the President's sole discretion. Therefore it is incumbent on Congress to honor the Constitution, and respect the will of the people, by using the power of the purse to rein in the President's actions.

We respectfully request that the House stand firm in its efforts to oppose the President's executive action and place comprehensive restrictions on the funding for its implementation as

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soon as possible in the 114th Congress. We thank you for your efforts with this legislation, for your consideration of this important request, and look forward to a response by no later than January 9, 2015.

Sincerely,

Matt Salmon

Mick Mulvaney

Dave Brat

Ted Yoho

Tom McClintock

Richard Hudson

Trent Franks

Tim Huelskamp

Duncan Hunter

Morgan Griffith

Doug LaMalfa

Doug Lamborn

Raul Labrador

Reid Ribble

Gary Palmer

Thomas Massie

Randy Weber

Curt Clawson M.C.

Tom Marino

Brian Babin

Justin Amash

Ron DeSantis

Jeff Duncan

Phil Roe

Charles Boustany

Gus Bilirakis

Rich Nugent

Todd Rokita

Keith Rothfus

Paul Gosar

Randy Neugebauer

David Schweikert

Lou Barletta

Steve Pearce

Mark Sanford

Marsha Blackburn

Mark Walker

Cynthia Lummis

Steven Palazzo

David Rouzer

Kenny Marchant

Pete Olson

Joe Barton

Jim Bridenstine

Scott DesJarlais

Walter Jones

Diane Black

Bradley Byrne

Sam Johnson

Brad Wenstrup

John Fleming

Jim Jordan

Scott Perry

Stephen Fincher

Michael Burgess

Jason Smith

Bill Posey