

CLEAN BUDGET COALITION

LETTERS & RELEASES FAQ & GLOSSARY MEMBERS

FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Nearly 200 Groups Call for Clean Spending Bills

LETTER



Dear Senators and Members of Congress,

The Clean Budget Coalition and allied organizations— an alliance of labor, scientific, consumer, research, good government, faith, civil rights, community, health, environmental, business, and public interest groups — urges you to pass FY24 appropriations bills free from policy riders that harm the public.

No appropriations package should move forward if it contains “poison pill” policy riders that go against the public interest.

Congress must pass clean spending bills that place the focus of the federal budget and appropriations process back where it belongs: on providing



ample funding and advancing the public interest. Thus far, the House majority has proposed FY24 budget bills that include draconian cuts to non-defense discretionary spending as well as hundreds of poison pill riders—several of which would go on to undercut the many effective policies and initiatives that have been implemented under the current Biden Administration.

In this pivotal moment in the appropriations process, we again ask that you prioritize both appropriate funding levels and keeping all new poison pill policy riders out of the bills. And while our coalition thoroughly appreciates the many Members of Congress who have pushed and fought for a clean FY24 budget thus far, it's especially important to maintain solidarity in the face of an unfortunate reality: **once a poison pill rider is included in an iteration of the appropriations package, it becomes almost impossible to remove it from future packages.**

Neither legacy riders nor new poison pills represent the will of the American people, but instead harmful special interest groups that wish to circumvent the legislative process through this misguided budgetary practice.

People across the nation have always opposed the abuse of the budget process to roll back public protections or create loopholes that hinder accountability. Especially as we look forward toward a post-pandemic future, the federal budget should fund priorities that Americans truly care about, not hack away at essential safeguards. The American people support policies to:

- Ensure safe and healthy food and products;
- Restrain Wall Street abuses;
- Protect our air, land, water and wildlife;
- Safeguard fair and safe workplaces;
- Guard against consumer rip-offs and corporate wrongdoing;
- Defend our campaign finance, election, and census systems, and support D.C. statehood;
- Provide access to justice and fair housing;
- Protect human and civil rights, including students' protections and services in schools, and immigrant rights; and



- Guarantee continued access to vital health care services including comprehensive reproductive health care, among other things.

Again, the public does not support the inclusion of damaging policy riders in must-pass appropriations bills that would undo or block any of these protections.

People across the United States deserve a 2024 budget that not only addresses the needs of the present but invests in a better future. For this reason, we urge Members of Congress and Senators to fully fund important public services and to reject any flawed bills that incorporate new poison pills or fail to remove the legacy riders that would undo essential public safeguards.

Sincerely,

20/20 Vision

ACLU

Act Now: End AIDS

AFL-CIO

Affordable Homeownership Foundation Inc.

African American Ministers in Action

AFSCME

AIDS Alabama

AIDS Foundation Chicago

The AIDS Institute

AIDS United

Alaska Wilderness League Action

American Academy of HIV Medicine

American Association for Justice

American Association of University Women

American Bird Conservancy

American Economic Liberties Project

American Federation of Teachers

American Rivers

American Sustainable Business Council

Americans for Democratic Action

Americans for Financial Reform

Americans United for Separation of Church and State

Animal Wellness Action

Appliance Standards Awareness Project

Autistic Self Advocacy Network



Bend the Arc: Jewish Action
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
CAER Coalition
Campaign for Family Farms and the Environment
Caring Across Generations
Catholics for Choice
Center for American Progress
Center for Biological Diversity
The Center for HIV Law and Policy
Center for Law and Social Policy
Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement and Research
Center for Reproductive Rights
Center for Responsible Lending
Center for Science in the Public Interest
CenterLink: The Community of LGBTQ Centers
Change the Chamber
Chicago Political Economy Group
Children's Defense Fund
Church World Service
Clean Air Council
Clean Water Action
Climate Action Campaign
Climate Reality Chicago
Chapel Hill Organization for Clean Energy
Coalition on Human Needs
Coalition for Health Funding
Common Cause
Community Change Action
Communications Workers of America
Community Catalyst
Consumer Action
Consumer Federation of America
Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety
DCVote
Defenders of Wildlife
Democracy 21
Drug Policy Alliance
Dr. William Barclay—Chicago Political Economy Group
Earthjustice
Economic Policy Institute



Endangered Species Coalition
End Citizens United//Let America Vote Action Fund
Elevate
Endangered Species Coalition
Environmental Defense Fund
Environmental Working Group
Equality Federation
Faith in Harm Reduction
Fast-Track Cities Institute
Five Horizons Health Services
Food Research & Action Center (FRAC)
Fundors Concerned About AIDS
Futures Without Violence
The Gault Center
Georgia Equality
GLSEN
GRACE/End Child Poverty CA
GreenLatinos
Greenpeace USA
Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction
Harrington Investments, Inc.
HealthHIV
Hep Free Hawaii
Hispanic Federation
HIV/AIDS Alliance of Michigan
HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute
HIV Dental Alliance
Housing Works
The Hub Project
Human Rights Campaign
Illinois Environmental Council
Illinois Harm Reduction and Recovery Coalition
The Immigration Hub
Indivisible
Impact Fund
Innocence Project
Innovative Green Builders
The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care
International Fund for Animal Welfare



Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Women International
John Muir Project of Earth Island Institute
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
League of Conservation Voters
Los Padres ForestWatch
Main Street Alliance
Majority Action
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger
Media Voices for Children
MomsRising
NASTAD
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
National Association for College Admission Counseling
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders (NALCAB)
National Association of Consumer Advocates
National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities
National Association of Social Workers
National Center for Lesbian Rights
The National Center for Health Research
The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Community Action Partnership
National Community Reinvestment Coalition
National Council of Jewish Women
National Disability Institute
National Disability Rights Network
National Domestic Violence Hotline
National Education Association
National Employment Law Project
National Employment Lawyers Association
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Healthcare for the Homeless Council
The National Health Law Program
National Juvenile Justice Network
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Network to End Domestic Violence
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
National WIC Association



National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Jersey Association on Correction
New Progressive Alliance
Nourish California
Ocean Conservancy
Oxfam America
P Street
PAI
Partnership for Policy Integrity
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
People's Action
Population Connection
Positive Women's Network-USA
Protect All Children's Environment
Public Citizen
Public Justice Center
Public Knowledge
Rachel Carson Council
Reproductive Freedom for All
Safe Climate Campaign
Safer Foundation
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
SEIU
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States
Sierra Club
Sign Public Advocacy for Kids
The Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund
Start Early
Union of Concerned Scientists
Take on Wall Street
The United State of Women
Treatment Action Group
Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice
Unrig Our Economy
U.S. People Living with HIV Caucus
U.S. PIRG
Vivent Health
Voices for Progress



Western Watersheds Project
West Virginia Hepatitis Academic Mentoring Partnership
West Virginia HIV Academic Mentoring Partnership
Wildlife Conservation Society
The Wilderness Society
Woodstock Institute
Youth First Justice Collaborative

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[One Quarter of CJS Spending Bill Is Poison Pills](#)

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[80 Poison Pills in House Drafted Financial Services and General Government Spending Bill](#)

[Culture War Riders Are Back in the House's Draft Military Construction, VA Spending Bill](#)

[200+ Groups: Congress Should Pass Clean FY25 Spending Bills, Remove Legacy Poison Pills](#)

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[March 22 Minibus Leaves Out Nearly All of the New Poison Pills](#)

[Lawmakers Must Hold the Line Against Partisan Poison Pills in Second Minibus](#)



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