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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

CONSERVATION, RESEARCH,  
AND BIOTECHNOLOGY;  
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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

RANKING MEMBER  
TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION

October 1, 2025

The Honorable Catherine Szpindor  
Chief Administrative Officer  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Room HB-28, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Szpindor,

While the federal government continues to experience a shutdown, I request that you withhold my pay as a Member of Congress. Members of Congress should play by the same rules as the people they represent. Until Congress comes to a bipartisan resolution to this impasse, one that makes whole the workers I represent in Illinois' 13th District and fully reopens the government, I firmly believe Member pay should be withheld.

Washington's dysfunction is unacceptable, and Illinoisans have had enough. Until both parties come to the table, do their job, and reopen the government, Members of Congress should not receive pay.

I respectfully ask that you withhold my pay until an agreement to reopen the government is signed into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nikki Budzinski".

Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress