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September 3, 2021

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Chairman
Committee on Education and Labor
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Scott:

We write to you today to ask that you uphold your commitment to working with all members and build on our shared goal of making this a model committee by providing all Members of the Education and Labor Committee with draft text of your reconciliation legislation as soon as possible in advance of next week's anticipated markup.

The partisan Budget Resolution recently deemed as adopted by the House directs the Committee on Education and Labor to report changes to laws within its jurisdiction that increase the deficit by nearly \$780 billion. It is clear from this exorbitant price tag, along with public statements from Democrat Congressional Leadership, including the Budget Committee Chairman, that these changes in law will be extensive, affecting broad sections of the Committee's jurisdiction, including child care, education at all levels, paid leave, and workforce development. It is no exaggeration to state that this legislation would fundamentally alter many aspects of American lives and the U.S. economy.

Given the magnitude of this legislation, the public and Members of this Committee deserve ample time to consider the statutory text proposed by the Committee's majority before all Members are expected to vote on hundreds of billions of dollars that will affect job creators, families, and workers.

On February 8th, when this Committee organized for the 117th Congress, you shared your vision of cooperative consideration: "I want to express my commitment to working with every member of this Committee." Practically speaking, that commitment you expressed is accomplished when all Members are meaningfully included in the legislative process and receive essential information in a timely fashion—particularly the text of measures the Committee will consider.

Unfortunately, the last time the Committee considered reconciliation legislation in February, Members of the Committee were provided the text of a measure spending up to \$357.9 billion less than 24 hours prior to the markup. While the letter of the applicable House Rule requires you to provide the text only 24 hours in advance of next week's expected markup, our shared principles of transparency and your expressed commitment to the prerogatives of all Members, majority and minority both, as well as the unprecedented size and scale of the pending legislation, provide compelling reasons for you to release a draft of the text as soon as possible.

We ask that you meet those principles and allow all Committee Members to review promptly a draft of the legislation you and your staff are considering, and that you commit to sharing any changes as they are finalized over the next few days before formal consideration. That transparency will be an important signal to Members and the American people that you are giving due regard to the views of all Committee Members and the scope of your proposed actions.

Sincerely,



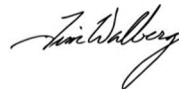
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Ranking Member



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress



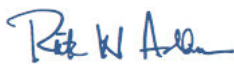
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