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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

March 6, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In the House Republican Conference meeting last week, you referenced the two joint select committees established by the recently passed continuing resolution. One will investigate and recommend solutions for the solvency of the multiemployer pension plans, the other will recommend modifications to the congressional budget and appropriations process. Both committees will be bipartisan, with an equal number of members appointed by the leaders on both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate. Any recommendations must be approved by a majority of the members from each party. The committees have nine months to conduct their work.

As Congress considers ways to address school violence while protecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens, we suggest that you consider the joint select committee model. School violence is a long-standing, nationwide problem with a wide variety of causes, many of them beyond the scope of federal jurisdiction. Congress ought to thoroughly and thoughtfully examine the issue and all of its contributing factors. It should methodically analyze options to improve federal policy, make recommendations based on real world evidence, and bring them up for debate.

The American people will never accept their children being murdered at school. This is a serious matter, and Congress needs to get it right. We believe a joint select committee may be the best way to achieve that goal. Instead of waiting for the next tragedy, we encourage you to take the lead and form a select committee now.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

*Hope you
will consider
this suggestion!*