

The Honorable Sarah McBride
Member of Congress
State of Delaware, At Large

Deputy Whip for Policy



House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

House Foreign Affairs Committee

Subcommittee on Europe
Subcommittee on Oversight
& Intelligence

House Space, Science, and
Technology Committee

Subcommittee on Research and
Technology

October 10, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson,

I write to you extremely concerned that you have cancelled votes in the House of Representatives on October 14th, and I demand that you call House Republicans back to Washington to pass legislation to pay our troops, do the work of the American people, and reopen the government. House Republicans have been missing in action for 21 days now, while the American people expect us to do our jobs and negotiate a deal to deliver results. Democrats are here and ready. Let's get back to work.

With Congress out of session on October 14th, we are unable to pass the bipartisan legislation needed to ensure that our service members receive their paychecks. If our troops go without pay, this will be a shameful first in our nation's history. At Dover Air Force Base, one of the nation's most critical military installations, men and women who perform some of the most solemn and vital missions are being asked to serve without compensation. The same is true for members of the Delaware National Guard, who stand ready to respond in times of crisis at home and abroad. They have kept their promise to our country; Congress must keep ours.

Let's be clear about why we're here. More than 20 million Americans, including 16,000 Delawareans, are facing skyrocketing health insurance premiums. These are very real consequences for working families in my state of Delaware, your state of Louisiana, and across the country. Extending these necessary health care subsidies is a very simple task, but MAGA Republican leadership chose to walk away instead of working to fix this. This is not about politics. It's about whether families can see a doctor, afford their prescriptions, and count on the services that they need.

Every week of delay means another service member unsure when they'll be paid, another Delaware family missing a paycheck, another veteran unable to access care, and another small business owner wondering how to make ends meet. My constituents, and yours, depend on a functioning government to do its most basic job: serve the people.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to roll up our sleeves and deliver results. As Delaware's sole member of Congress, I can tell you that the people of my state have been clear. Call the House back to work. Reopen the government. Restore the services people count on. Together, we can show that Congress still has the capacity to work for the people and deliver progress over chaos. That's the Delaware way—neighbors stepping up, working together, and delivering results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. McBride". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "S." and the last name "McBride" clearly distinguishable.

Sarah McBride
Member of Congress