

**ROBERT J. WITTMAN**  
1ST DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE  
CHAIRMAN, READINESS SUBCOMMITTEE  
SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES  
SUBCOMMITTEE

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
ENERGY AND MINERAL  
RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE  
WATER, POWER, AND OCEANS SUBCOMMITTEE

CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL  
SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS

CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL  
SHIPBUILDING CAUCUS

CO-CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL  
CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED CAUCUS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4601**

July 13, 2016

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2454 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4261

DISTRICT OFFICES:

STAFFORD OFFICE  
95 DUNN DRIVE SUITE 201  
STAFFORD, VA 22556  
(540) 659-2734

PENINSULA OFFICE  
401 MAIN STREET  
P.O. Box 494  
YORKTOWN, VA 23690  
(757) 874-6687

MIDDLE PENINSULA OFFICE  
508 CHURCH LANE  
P.O. Box 3106  
TAPPAHANNOCK, VA 22560  
(804) 443-0668

[WWW.WITTMAN.HOUSE.GOV](http://WWW.WITTMAN.HOUSE.GOV)

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker,

I am disappointed that Congress again plans to leave Washington, D.C. for August recess without addressing critical issues important to the American people. As you know, I have long advocated for Congress to skip the August recess and stay in session until the annual appropriations process is complete each year.

Unfortunately, the House has only completed consideration of four of the twelve annual appropriations bills. Congress should remain in Washington until the work is complete. That is why I've introduced, H.Res 17, the Stay on Schedule (S.O.S) resolution to change congressional procedures to prohibit the House from taking an August recess unless it has passed all regular appropriations bills by July 31.

I appreciate that district work periods allow Members to visit with folks back in their respective communities, but it is now becoming a habit for Congress to abandon a long "to do" list in the rush to get out of town. This August is no exception.

Congress has not done its job. It has not completed the work of the people, including finishing the FY2017 appropriations process. Our constituents expect us to stay and finish the job.

These critical national priorities are too important to delay. I ask that you would keep the House in session through the scheduled time away in July and August to finish the business of the people. Furthermore, I ask that you urge the Senate to also remain in session until the appropriations process is complete.

Sincerely,

  
Robert J. Wittman