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September 23, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader McConnell:

The ongoing public health crisis in Flint, Michigan requires our immediate attention and action. Congress cannot turn its back on Flint by refusing to include it in the continuing resolution to fund the government.

The City of Flint is still in crisis. Clean drinking water is a basic human right. Thousands of families in the City have been harmed. Members of the CBC have been outspoken regarding Flint and we stand united in our call for Flint funding in order to help affected families recover. There are children with visible scars and those who will have lasting health issues that we cannot yet see, such as damage to the central and peripheral nervous system, learning disabilities, shorter stature, impaired hearing, and impaired formation and function of blood cells. As legislators, we have an opportunity to ensure impacted children get the much needed aid they deserve.

We have a moral obligation to protect the health of our children and all affected by this man-made disaster. We must ensure that this community is able to deal with this crisis and we must do all in our power to address this issue. The people of Flint deserve nothing less. Therefore, we call upon you to ensure funding is provided for the families of Flint in the continuing resolution. It is a moral imperative.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

G. K. Butterfield
Chairman
The Congressional Black Caucus

