February 21, 2023

The Honorable Bryan Steil  
Chair  
Committee on House Administration  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph Morelle  
Ranking Member  
Committee on House Administration  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Allocation for the Committee on House Administration

Dear Chair Steil and Ranking Member Morelle:

We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, encourage you to allocate funds to the Committee on House Administration to provide sufficient resources for it to support its expanded membership, duties, and responsibilities. Given the increase in the number of members, staff, and subcommittees, we urge you to significantly increase the committee’s budget.

In the 117th Congress, the Committee on House Administration had a heavy workload. This included overseeing elections, managing Capitol security and day-to-day operations of the institution, and leading on major legislation. In addition, the Committee had among the lowest funding levels, at $12.1 million, of any standing committee, as well as among the smallest staff levels. Furthermore, the committee has absorbed the Modernization Committee, which was funded at $2.1 million in the 117th Congress.

Your organizational meeting on February 2, 2023 made it clear that the House Administration Committee will have expanded responsibilities that include more activity around transparency, oversight, modernization, technology, and accessibility. In addition, there is a significant body of continuing work from the 117th Congress.

Major reforms are necessary for the House of Representatives and the US Congress. The House Administration Committee is poised to tackle those hard issues through its new Modernization subcommittee. In addition to the pre-existing election subcommittee, the newly established oversight subcommittee will serve as a critical check on operational and security matters.

With the expansion of your work and staff, we strongly believe an increase in funding is needed to maximize the committee’s ability to do effective work in a timely manner to serve the American people and the institution. Thank you for your consideration. We welcome

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the opportunity to discuss this further. Please contact Taylor J. Swift, Senior Policy Advisor for Demand Progress Action at Taylor@DemandProgress.org.

Sincerely yours,

Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)
College to Congress
Congressional Management Foundation
Demand Progress Action
Government Information Watch
Issue One
Media Alliance
NALEO Educational Fund
Open The Government
Pay Our Interns
Project On Government Oversight
RootsAction.org
Senior Executives Association

Norman Ornstein, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research*
Robert Cook-Deegan, Arizona State University*
Lorelei Kelly, GeoDES—Georgetown Democracy, Education + Service*
Zach Graves, Lincoln Network*
Kevin Esterling, University of California Riverside*

* = Affiliations listed for identification purposes only.

cc: Members of the House Administration Committee