



Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy

Floor Statement

Floor Speech on Introduction of Foster Accountability, Integrity, Trust, and Honor (FAITH) in
Congress Act
May 24, 2018

Mr. Speaker:

The American people have little faith in Congress. They don't trust Members to work together in a bipartisan way; to put the public interest above self-interest; and to do their most basic job, which is to set a budget and be fiscally responsible.

Our nation is strongest when our democratic institutions generate confidence, not cynicism—and when our leaders inspire pride, not pessimism.

That's why Congressman Fitzpatrick and I introduced the *Faith in Congress Act*.

It requires House leaders to prioritize bipartisan bills over partisan ones, because we must put country over party.

It abolishes automatic pay increases for Members of Congress and prohibits first-class travel at taxpayer expense, because it's time we end these perks.

It enacts a simple principle called, "No Budget, No Pay"—which says if Congress doesn't pass a budget and appropriations bills on time, Members don't get paid. Because the best way to stop incompetence is to stop *rewarding* it.

Finally, it imposes a lifetime ban on former Members becoming lobbyists, because there should be no doubt that Members come to Congress to serve the public, not to line their own pockets.

It's up to Congress to take the tough but necessary steps to earn the public's trust. The American people's faith in Congress has been damaged, and it's our job to repair it.

Thank you.