

JOE WALSH

8TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC GROWTH,
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1308

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July 21, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
Majority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. Leader:

The August 2nd deadline is approaching quickly. Americans are losing hope as Congress could again fail on its promise to permanently rein in government spending.

The debt ceiling is intended to control federal spending but Washington continues to simply raise it without considering the consequences. American families have been working through a recession for the past three years by spending less and saving more, yet the federal government continues to spend more money it simply does not have.

Therefore, on behalf of the millions of Americans we represent, we strongly urge you to both publicly oppose Senator McConnell's plan to raise the debt ceiling and ensure it never comes to the House floor for a vote.

The McConnell Plan punts on our duty as Members of the United States Congress. The plan, at its core, would allow the President to raise the debt ceiling on his own in exchange for insufficient spending cuts and a congressional "expression of disapproval." McConnell's plan supersedes the rights of the American people. The only way for average American families to act on the debt ceiling is through their elected representatives in Congress.

We understand Senator Mitch McConnell's frustration with the debt ceiling debate, but his plan enables Congress to avoid making the hard decisions. This plan is nothing more than politics as usual: it passes the buck to President Obama and robs the American people of their voice in Congress. If we are going to continue saddling innocent Americans with more and more debt, they must be included in the discussion. Senator McConnell's plan is business as usual and does not offer any real solution to runaway spending.

We appreciate you hearing our concerns and look forward to working with you in getting this nation's fiscal house in order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Walsh".

Rep. Joe Walsh (IL-08)

1. Justin Amash (MI-03)
2. John Campbell (CA-48)
3. Tim Huelskamp (KS-01)
4. Paul Broun (GA-10)
5. Paul Gosar (AZ- 01)
6. David Schwiebert (AZ-05)
7. Ron Paul (TX-14)
8. Doug Lamborn (CO-05)
9. Jason Chaffetz (UT-03)
10. Mick Mulvaney (SC-05)
11. Tom McClintock (CA-04)
12. Allen West (FL-22)
13. Bill Posey (FL-15)
14. Tom Graves (GA-09)
15. Jim Jordan (OH-04)
16. Jeff Miller (FL-01)
17. Blake Farenthold (TX-27)
18. Tim Scott (SC-01)
19. Ben Quayle (AZ-03)
20. Trent Franks (AZ-02)
21. Gary Miller (CA-42)
22. Andy Harris (MD-01)
23. Phil Gingrey (GA-11)
24. Jeff Landry (LA-03)
25. Mo Brooks (AL-05)
26. Mike Kelly (PA-03)
27. Trey Gowdy (SC-04)
28. Jeff Duncan (SC-03)
29. Scott Garrett (NJ-05)
30. Jeff Flake (AZ-06)
31. Sandy Adams (FL-24)
32. Rich Nugent (FL-05)
33. Dennis Ross (FL-12)
34. Steve Southerland (FL-02)
35. Joe Wilson (SC-02)
36. Tom Price (GA-06)
37. Stephen Fincher (TN-08)
38. James Lankford (OK-05)
39. Raul Labrador (ID-01)
40. Frank Guinta (NH-01)
41. Scott Tipton (CO-03)
42. Randy Hultgren (IL-14)
43. Todd Rokita (IN-04)
44. Dan Benishek (MI-01)
45. Chuck Flieschman (TN-03)
46. Stevan Pearce (NM-02)
47. Lou Barletta (PA-11)
48. Robert Schilling (IL-17)
49. Steve Chabbot (OH-01)
50. Marlin Stutzman (IN-03)
51. Connie Mack (FL-14)
52. Dan Burton (IN-05)
53. Vicky Hartzler (MO-04)
54. Jean Schmidt (OH-02)
55. Alan Nunnelee (MS-01)
56. John Flemming (LA-04)
57. Reid Ribble (WI-08)
58. Mike Pompeo (KS-04)
59. Lynn Jenkins (KS-02)
60. Gus Bilirakis (FL-09)
61. Scott DesJarlais (TN-04)
62. Steve King (IA-05)
63. Ann Marie Buerkle (NY-25)
64. Rick Crawford (AR-01)
65. Roscoe Barlett (MD-06)
66. Rob Bishop (UT-01)
67. Jack Kingston (GA-01)
68. Randy Neugebauer (TX-19)
69. Marsha Blackburn (TN-07)
70. Tim Griffin (AR-02)
71. Bill Flores (TX-17)
72. Diane Black (TN-06)
73. Duncan Hunter (CA-52)
74. Cynthia Lummis (WY-At Large)
75. Todd Akin (MO-02)
76. Mike Coffman (CO-06)
77. Phil Roe (TN-01)
78. John Sullivan (OK-01)
79. Lynn Westmoreland (GA-03)
80. Tom Marino (PA-10)
81. Steve Scalise (LA-01)
82. Ted Poe (TX-02)
83. Patrick McHenry (NC-10)
84. Louie Gohmert (TX-01)
85. Joe Pitts (PA-16)
86. Morgan Grifith (VA-09)