

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 9, 2013

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman
House Budget Committee
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairman
Senate Budget Committee
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Ryan and Chairman Murray:

As solution-oriented Members of Congress, we strive to find common ground on some of the most serious challenges before us. Like many Americans, we agree that the gridlock in Washington has to stop. We urge you to find commonsense, bipartisan solutions to the serious fiscal challenges we face as a nation.

There is no greater threat to the American economy than our government's \$17 trillion national debt. But the partisan gridlock has made it nearly impossible for us to develop a responsible fiscal plan that addresses these issues. We believe it is our duty to put the needs of our country ahead of any political party.

We stand ready to work with you on a bipartisan solution that solves our nation's fiscal problems. We believe that what unites us far exceeds what divides us. It is time to put our differences aside.

Sincerely,



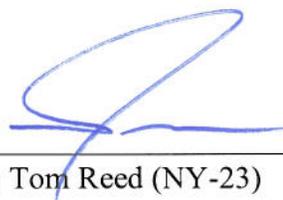
Rep. John Barrow (GA-12)



Rep. Jim Cooper (TN-05)



Rep. Kurt Schrader (OR-05)



Rep. Tom Reed (NY-23)



Rep. Dave Reichert (WA-08)



Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-08)