

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 16, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
S-221, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
H-204, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
S-230, US Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader Pelosi, Majority Leader Reid, and Leader McConnell:

We write to you as a bipartisan group of representatives from across the political spectrum in the belief that a successful bipartisan agreement to avoid the "fiscal cliff" must include a long-term, comprehensive deficit reduction plan. Reaching a deal is vital to our country's future. We know that there have been divisions in the past about how best to solve this challenge, but we approach you today with one simple message: we support a bipartisan common sense solution.

To succeed, all options for mandatory and discretionary spending and revenues must be on the table. We also know from other bipartisan frameworks that savings from all parts of the budget and real reform of the tax system will be necessary to stabilize our debt as a share of the economy and assure America's fiscal and economic well-being over the long term.

Our country needs honest, thoughtful leaders with the political courage to solve this issue once and for all. You have the unique opportunity and authority to achieve this, and we support your efforts as you do so.

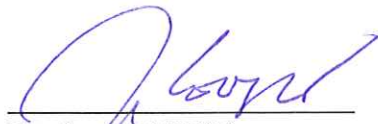
Sincerely,



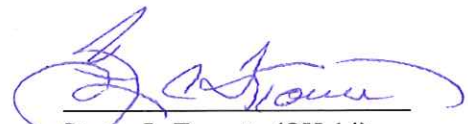
Heath Shuler (NC-11)
Member of Congress



Mike Simpson (ID-02)
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper (TN-05)
Member of Congress



Steven LaTourette (OH-14)
Member of Congress