

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 27, 2011

Speaker John Boehner
U.S. Capitol, H-232
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner:

With five days until our nation faces an unprecedented financial crisis, we need to work together to ensure that our nation does not default on our obligations for the first time in our history. We heard that in your caucus you said the Senate will support your bill. We are writing to tell you that we will not support it, and give you the reasons why.

A short-term extension like the one in your bill would put America at risk, along with every family and business in it. Your approach would force us once again to face the threat of default in five or six short months. Every day, another expert warns us that your short-term approach could be nearly as disastrous as a default and would lead to a downgrade in our credit rating. If our credit is downgraded, it would cost us billions of dollars more in interest payments on our existing debt and drive up our deficit. Even more worrisome, a downgrade would spike interest rates, making everything from mortgages, car loans and credit cards more expensive for families and businesses nationwide.

In addition to risking a downgrade and catastrophic default, we are concerned that in five or six months, the House will once again hold the economy captive and refuse to avoid another default unless we accept unbalanced, deep cuts to programs like Medicare and Social Security, without asking anything of the wealthiest Americans.

We now have only five days left to act. The entire world is watching Congress. We need to do the right thing to solve this problem. We must work together to avoid a default the responsible way – not in a way that will do America more harm than good.

Sincerely,



Ch L Sc



Patty Murray

Jeanne Shaker

But Sam

My Sister

Al Franken

Chin Coors

Barbara Lopez

Follet Wren

Sharon Brown

Phil WLM

W.F. Best

Frank R. Lundberg

Ms. Barron

& Brian Johnson

Carl McClellan

John Kern

Patrick Leahy

Barbara & Mark McKee

Ron Wyden

Carl Lee

Herb Kohl

Mark B. Zund

Tom Carper

Dennis Chinn

Debbie Stabenow

Bill Nelson

~~Mark Anderson~~

Mal R. Wilson

Johnston

Samuel K. Spaka

Tom Udare

Amy Klubber

Mark Udall

Jeff 13'

~~Jeffrey A. Mehl~~

Keith O'Hara

Kent Land

Tom R. Hagan

W. H. Hagan

~~Bill Johnson~~

John Johnson

Ben Cardini

Jim Lutz

Jack Reed

Jim Lutz

Tom Harker

J. Webb

Ray Pugh

Mark Poyser

Robert O. Carey, Jr