

October 28, 2011

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON DEFICIT REDUCTION:

The undersigned organizations write again to urge you, as a member of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, to go beyond the legislative mandate of the Budget Control Act of 2011 to achieve savings of \$1.2 to \$1.5 trillion to ensure that we stabilize our nation's debt and put the debt's share of the economy on a downward path, which is essential for long-term economic growth in our nation.

We believe it is crucial to act expeditiously to rein in spending, reform the tax code, reduce the deficit, and stabilize and ultimately lower America's level of debt. Economic growth is critical to our nation's fiscal health, and we believe that these steps will remove the threat of fiscal instability, improve certainty, and create a sustainable foundation for economic and job growth in the years ahead.

What's needed is a fiscal plan that stabilizes our debt level and then begins a process of reducing debt levels. The lack of a plan and path forward only brings more uncertainty with it and deficits today result in greater debt levels tomorrow, which left unchecked will result in future tax increases.

If the supercommittee fails to reach its assigned legislative goal, more than half of federal government outlays (entitlements) would be taken off the table in a fallback sequester, which are the debt drivers today and will be more so tomorrow. Continuing to pass the cost of entitlements on to the backs of future generations will result in a lower standard of living than they would otherwise have and is simply not fair.

We believe it is crucial for the supercommittee to succeed in crafting and advancing a credible multi-year plan to stabilize and reduce debt, which would have a positive economic effect on the economy.

A comprehensive plan to stabilize the debt will by necessity include reforms to entitlements, the single largest government expenditure and the tax system, which is in desperate need of reform.

The U.S. tax system needs simplification and fundamental, comprehensive pro-growth reform that encourages investment and employment. Comprehensive reform of corporate and individual tax rates is essential and the primary goal of tax reform should be improving the nation's long-term economic growth, which will lift Americans' living standards and create jobs.

As we noted in our September 29 letter to you, our nation's demographics will continue to put increasing financial pressure on our entitlement systems, as more than 70 million baby boomers begin their retirements starting this year. Reforms to major entitlement programs should begin as soon as possible to ensure benefits of current and near-term retirees are secured and changes

in future benefits can be phased in over a period of time securing these programs for future generations.

Finally, we are writing again to strongly urge you, as a member of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, to go beyond the specific mandate of the Budget Control Act and take the steps necessary to achieve these critically important objectives.

Sincerely,

Air Conditioning Contractors of America  
American Apparel & Footwear Association  
American Bakers Association  
American Beverage Association  
American Chemistry Council  
American Coatings Association  
American Composites Manufacturers Association  
American Council of Engineering Companies  
American Financial Services Association  
American Forest & Paper Association  
American Foundry Society  
American Gaming Association  
American Gas Association  
American Insurance Association  
American Lighting Association  
American Rental Association  
American Supply Association  
American Trucking Associations  
AMT - The Association for Manufacturing Technology  
Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce - AZ  
Ardmore Chamber of Commerce  
Arizona Manufacturers Council  
Arizona New Mexico Cable Communications Association  
Arizona Small Business Association  
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce  
Arlington Chamber of Commerce - TX  
Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc.  
Associated Builders & Contractors, Rocky Mountain Chapter  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Associated General Contractors of America  
Associated Industries of Arkansas, Inc.  
Associated Industries of Florida  
Associated Oregon Industries  
Associated Wire Rope Fabricators  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers  
Association of Global Automakers, Inc.  
Association of Washington Business

Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association  
Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce - SC  
Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce - ND  
Blount Partnership - TN  
Bossier Chamber of Commerce - LA  
Brick Industry Association  
Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce - AZ  
Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International  
Business Council of NY State, Inc.  
California Manufacturers & Technology Association  
Can Manufacturers Institute  
Chamber Southwest Louisiana  
Chattanooga Regional Manufacturers Association  
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber - OH  
Club Managers Association of America  
Colorado Association of Commerce & Industry  
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute  
Consumer Specialty Products Association  
CTIA – The Wireless Association  
Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce - TX  
Delaware State Chamber of Commerce  
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce - CO  
Draper Area Chamber of Commerce - UT  
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce - WI  
Edison Electric Institute  
Employers Group  
European-American Business Council  
Fabricators and Manufacturers Association  
Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce - VA  
Fairfield Chamber of Commerce - CT  
Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association  
Financial Executives International  
Financial Services Institute  
Financial Services Roundtable  
Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce - AZ  
Food Marketing Institute  
Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce & Industry - WI  
Fresno Chamber of Commerce - CA  
Georgia Association of Manufacturers  
Georgia Chamber of Commerce  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
Greater Burlington Partnership - IA  
Greater Des Moines Partnership - IA  
Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce - TX  
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce - NC  
Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce - LA

Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry  
Illinois Manufacturers' Association  
INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry  
Indiana Manufacturers Association  
Industrial Fasteners Institute  
International Franchise Association  
Iowa Association of Business and Industry  
Johnson City/Jonesborough/Washington County TN Chamber of Commerce  
Kalispell Chamber of Commerce  
Kankakee Regional Chamber of Commerce - IL  
Kentucky Association of Manufacturers  
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association  
Lake Havasu Area Chamber of Commerce - AZ  
Lynchburg Regional Chamber - VA  
Maine State Chamber of Commerce  
Manufacture Alabama  
Marana Chamber of Commerce - AZ  
Marshalltown Area Chamber of Commerce - IA  
Metal Powder Industries Federation  
Metal Treating Institute  
Metals Service Center Institute  
Michigan Chamber of Commerce  
Missouri Association of Manufacturers  
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce - AL  
Montana Chamber of Commerce  
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association  
NADCA - GA  
NADCA - IL  
Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce - IL  
National Association of Chemical Distributors  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies  
National Automatic Merchandising Association  
National Beer Wholesalers Association (NBWA)  
National Council of Chain Restaurants  
National Electrical Contractors Association  
National Lime Association  
National Marine Manufacturers Association  
National Restaurant Association  
National Retail Federation  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Shooting Sports Foundation  
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association  
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Nevada Manufacturers Association

New Jersey Chamber of Commerce  
Non-Ferrous Founders' Society  
North American Association of Food Equipment Manufacturers  
North Carolina Chamber  
North Dakota Chamber of Commerce  
Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers and Employers Association  
Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce - KY  
NPES - The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies  
Nuclear Energy Institute  
Ohio Chamber of Commerce  
Ohio Society of CPAs  
Opelika Chamber of Commerce - AL  
Orange County Business Council - CA  
Outdoor Amusement Business Association, Inc.  
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute  
Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce - CA  
Pennsylvania Business Council  
Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry  
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association  
Portland Cement Association  
Precision Machined Products Association  
Printing Industries of America Inc  
Property Casualty Insurers Association of America  
ProsperityAlaska.org  
Puerto Rico Chamber of Commerce  
Retail Industry Leaders Association  
Richfield Area Chamber of Commerce - UT  
River Region Chamber of Commerce - LA  
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association  
Rowan County Chamber of Commerce - NC  
Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce - MD  
San Antonio Manufacturers Association  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce - CA  
Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce and Convention-Visitors Bureau - CA  
Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce - PA  
Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association  
Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce - CA  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates  
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce  
South Shore Chamber of Commerce - MA  
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association  
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce - MO  
Steel Manufacturers Association  
Strategic HR Partners LLC  
Tempe Chamber of Commerce

Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Texas Association of Business  
The Aluminum Association  
The Council of Industry of Southeastern New York  
The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers  
The Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce - TX  
The Hosiery Association  
The Kansas Chamber  
The Longview Chamber of Commerce & CVB - TX  
The Ohio Manufacturers' Association  
The Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce - MN  
The State Chamber of Oklahoma  
Tucson Metro Chamber of Commerce - AZ  
Tulsa Metro Chamber - OK  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Travel Association  
United States Telecom Association  
Utah Manufacturers Association  
Virginia Chamber of Commerce  
West Virginia Chamber  
West Virginia Manufacturers Association  
West Virginia Oil and Gas  
White Pine Chamber of Commerce - NV  
Wisconsin Grocers Association  
Woodworking Machinery Industry Association

cc: Members of the United States Congress