



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Washington, DC 20515

September 9, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Ryan:

Last night President Obama described the critical need for Congress to pass legislation creating jobs and he proposed several important initiatives that would boost the economy and put more Americans back to work. With so many Americans still unemployed, Congress should take quick action on these initiatives. Therefore I am asking that you schedule a Committee hearing to consider the President's proposal.

Each day that the economy is stalled is not only one more day that people are out of work, it is also one more day that our deficit rises. The fastest, most effective way to reduce the deficit in the short-term is to boost the economy to create more jobs. Indeed, the Congressional Budget Office has projected that for every one-tenth of one percent increase in the gross domestic product over ten years, we can reduce the ten-year deficit by about \$310 billion.

Some of the President's proposals have had past bipartisan support, and I hope we can quickly move forward in addressing the twin challenge of helping create jobs and lowering the deficit. A hearing on his package would be an important step in moving a jobs agenda.

Sincerely,

Chris Van Hollen
Ranking Democrat