



U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
Washington, DC 20515

John L. Mica
Chairman

Nick J. Rahall, III
Ranking Member

October 13, 2011

James W. Coon II, Chief of Staff

James H. Zoia, Democrat Chief of Staff

The Honorable Jeb Hensarling
Co-Chair
Joint Select Committee on Deficit
Reduction
129 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Co-Chair
Joint Select Committee on Deficit
Reduction
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative Hensarling and Senator Murray:

As the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction develops its recommendations pursuant to the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25) to improve the fiscal imbalance of the Federal Government, it is critical that the Joint Select Committee develop a balanced and fair approach to deficit reduction, including identifying revenues to prevent any budget sequestration of job-creating infrastructure investment. The Democratic Members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure believe that a balanced approach must begin with restoring economic growth and creating jobs. We urge you to consider our proposals to reduce the Federal deficit by:

- restoring economic growth, creating jobs, and strengthening our nation's small businesses and economic competitiveness;
- eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse; and
- promoting efficiency and reform of government.

In combination, the proposals outlined in the enclosed report will create and sustain millions of family-wage jobs and reduce the deficit by tens of billions of dollars.

The Honorable Jeb Hensarling
The Honorable Patty Murray
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The Democratic Members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to work to find creative and efficient ways to reduce the deficit and create jobs and we look forward to working with the Joint Select Committee as it develops its recommendations for Congress.

With warm regards, I am,

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL, II
Ranking Democratic Member

cc: Members, Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction
Members, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
The Honorable John A. Boehner, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Leader, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Harry Reid, Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Republican Leader, U.S. Senate