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April 15, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Spratt
Chairman
House Committee on the Budget
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Chairman Spratt:

As a member of the Budget Committee and someone concerned about deficit reduction, I write today to request that the House proceed with crafting a budget resolution that outlines our priorities for the next fiscal year and details the concrete steps we intend to take to reduce our national debt. As families must carefully plan for the coming year to stay within their means, so too must Congress.

I want to thank each of you for the roles you have played in the steps this body has already taken to reduce the federal deficit. Under your leadership, we have enacted pay-as-you-go rules requiring Congress to pay for what it does and we have significantly cut wasteful spending, including \$500 billion in overpayments to private health insurance companies and \$61 billion in overpayments to Wall Street firms that provide student loans, among other cuts. A budget resolution that invests in our economy, creates jobs, and puts us on a path to long-term fiscal soundness is critical to cementing these gains.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to working with you to enact a budget which invests in our future, helps grow our economy, creates jobs, supports our troops, and does so in a fiscally responsible way.

Sincerely,


Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress