

DAVID LOEBSACK

2ND DISTRICT, IOWA

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January 5, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

Like Iowa families, I was relieved that an agreement was finally reached last month to extend the payroll tax cut. Extending this tax cut for the full year will put an additional \$1,000 in the average American family's pocket. With the economy continuing to falter and unemployment rates still far too high, now is not the time to raise taxes on middle-class Americans. It is imperative that the conference committee come to an agreement to extend the payroll tax cut for a full year without delay.

As one of only six members of the House of Representatives who was willing to buck both parties' leadership to move a full-year extension of the payroll tax cut forward, I am concerned by reports stating that more than half of the House Republican conferees that you appointed are already on record as being against extending the payroll tax cut. Since the stated purpose of the conference committee is to come to an agreement to extend the payroll tax cut for the rest of the year, I ask that you reconsider the appointments of those who do not support this purpose. Working families cannot afford for these important negotiations to be derailed.

I am also disappointed in this week's news that the House and Senate conferees are not likely to meet until the week of January 16th. Extending the payroll tax cut is urgent and there is no reason why the negotiations should not begin immediately. Mr. Speaker, I hope that you will work with other members of the House and Senate Leadership to set a conference schedule that will ensure that negotiations don't once again come down to the 11th hour, needlessly risking millions of hard-working Americans' paychecks.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope that good faith, bipartisan negotiations to extend the payroll tax cut through 2012 will begin as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Dave Loebuck
Iowa's Second District