

DAVID LOEBSACK  
2ND DISTRICT, IOWA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1502**

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November 17, 2011

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

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Deficit Reduction  
448 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Co-Chair Hensarling and Co-Chair Murray,

I write to continue to bring to your attention bipartisan legislation I introduced to require transparency for Super Committee members and staff. Entitled the Deficit Committee Transparency Act, HR 2860, it is comprised of proposals to ensure the public has insight into how the committee will reach its important conclusions on at least \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction by November 23, 2011.

Unfortunately, despite numerous requests, this legislation has not been brought up for a vote and the major provisions have not been adopted proactively by your committee. Therefore, I am writing to respectfully request you proactively adopt one of the simplest measures of transparency proposed in HR 2860, which is to post the committee's recommendations for cutting the deficit online 72 hours before the committee vote. My understanding is that twenty government watchdog and transparency organizations have written to you in support of this request as well.

I believe that for the American people to have confidence in the committee's proceedings, outcome, and even a renewed confidence in Congress, you must ensure transparency when dealing with these important matters. The committee's members need to be free from undue influence and free to make decisions that are best for the country and not special interests. Ensuring the public can view the proposal before it's voted on is an easy although minimal step to give the American people the opportunity to participate in your committee's process.

The result of your committee's work will impact our economy for years to come and will affect every American. For that reason, I also again urge you to proactively implement all the transparency measures laid out in HR 2860 as part of the rules governing your committee in the immediate future.

With the short timeframe you have to develop a bipartisan proposal to reduce the deficit by at least \$1.2 trillion, it is more important than ever that a high level of transparency be required of the committee's and staff's meetings, campaign contributions, and interactions. I again respectfully urge you to at minimum post the committee's recommendations for reducing the deficit online 72 hours before the committee vote. Thank you for your time and consideration of these important matters.

Sincerely,



Dave Loebsack  
Iowa's Second District

CC: The Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader