Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2011

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Democratic Whip
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Clyburn
Assistant Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Larson
Democratic Caucus Chair
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Democratic Leaders:

Congress will soon be required to vote on whether to extend the debt limit which, according to Secretary Geithner, will be breached by mid-May.

We ask you to convene a caucus to discuss and establish a Democratic position in favor of a *clean* extension of the debt ceiling.

The debt ceiling vote is about one thing: affirming that America pays its bills. It does not authorize new taxpayer obligations; it affirms to the world our commitment to pay obligations already incurred.

To do otherwise, or to threaten to do so, or to leverage our duty to pay our bills to achieve a partisan advantage in budget disputes, jeopardizes the full faith and credit of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Peter Welch

PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett

LLOYD DOGGETT
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer

EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress

Rush Holt

RUSH HOLT
Member of Congress

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