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SCHAKOWSKY DELIVERS DEMOCRATIC RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT BUSH'S WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS IN SPANISH

"LOS DEMÓCRATAS SEGUIREMOS LUCHANDO POR REGRESAR A UN PLAN ECONÓMICO DE PRESUPUESTOS EQUILIBRADOS QUE GARANTICE UN CRECIMIENTO ECONÓMICO Y QUE OFREZCA MÁS OPORTUNIDADES DE EMPLEOS PARA TODOS."

"DEMOCRATS CONTINUE FIGHTING TO RETURN TO AN ECONOMIC PLAN WITH A BALANCED BUDGET THAT GUARANTEES ECONOMIC GROWTH AND OFFERS MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL."

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) delivered the Democratic response to President Bush's weekly radio address in Spanish. □
Schakowsky, who is Chief Deputy Whip and a member of the Democratic Leadership, said, *"A key component of the Homeland Security plan is having a robust economy and consistent growth in our country. We Democrats understand this need. And that is why our group of House Democrats came together this week in Washington to establish a consensus on our strategy to strengthen the economy. The President must recognize that tax cuts directed only to the rich is not the correct solution and will not serve to stimulate the economy. This plan has not worked and we should not repeat the errors of the past."*

□ Below is the text of Schakowsky's radio address in English and Spanish.

English Version: □

Good morning, I'm Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky of Illinois.

□

This week, more than 140 House Democrats came back to Washington to conduct a two-day forum to discuss the problems affecting our nation's economy. During the meeting, we heard from our country's leading economic policy experts, who concluded that the President's economic plan has failed. □

By firing his team of economic advisors this week, the President was forced to admit his failure to the entire country. However, replacing his economic advisors is not enough. The President must change not just his economic team, but also his economic plan. □

A key component of the Homeland Security plan is having a robust economy and consistent growth in our country. □

We Democrats understand this need. And that is why our group of House Democrats came together this week in Washington to establish a consensus on our strategy to

strengthen the economy.□

The President must recognize that tax cuts directed only to the rich is not the correct solution and will not serve to stimulate the economy. This plan has not worked and we should not repeat the errors of the past.□

On December 28th, just three days after Christmas, one million Americans will lose their unemployment benefits. The President refused to extend benefits for those people and their families, and is abandoning them when they need it the most.□

The President's abandonment has been most severe with regard to the Latin community. The unemployment rate for Latinos is 7.8% -- nearly two percent higher than the national average.□

While we are focusing on ensuring a better future for this great nation, Republican leaders like Senator Trent Lott prefer to relive the past, full of discrimination against minorities.□

Democrats continue fighting to return to an economic plan with a balanced budget that guarantees economic growth and offers more job opportunities for all.□

Thank you for listening. This is Jan Schakowsky, Congresswoman of Illinois.

Spanish Version:

Buenos días, soy la Congresista Jan Schakowsky de Illinois."□

Esta semana, más de 140 Demócratas en la Cámara de representantes convocaron un foro de dos días para discutir los problemas que afectan nuestra economía.□

Durante la reunión, escuchamos las posiciones de expertos en asuntos económicos, quienes concuerdan que el plan económico del Presidente ha fracasado.□

Al despedir a su equipo de asesores económicos esta semana, el Presidente tuvo que admitir su derrota a todo el país. Sin embargo, sustituir a sus asesores económicos no es suficiente. El Presidente no solo debe cambiar su equipo, sino su plan económico.□

Un componente clave del plan de Seguridad Nacional es el tener una economía fuerte y un crecimiento continuo en nuestro país.□

Nosotros los Demócratas entendemos esta necesidad. Y es por eso que los Congresistas Demócratas nos reunimos en Washington esta semana con el propósito de establecer un consenso cuyo objetivo es fortalecer nuestra economía.□

El Presidente necesita reconocer que los cortes de impuestos dirigidos solo a los ricos no es la solución correcta y no sirve para estimular la economía. Este plan no dio resultado y no debemos repetir los errores del pasado.□

Este 28 de diciembre - tres días después de la Navidad--un millón de personas perderán sus beneficios de desempleo. El Presidente rechazó extenderles los beneficios a estas personas, sus familias y las está abandonando cuando más lo necesitan.□

Y cuando se trata de nuestra comunidad Latina, el abandono por parte del Presidente es más agudo. El nivel de desempleo entre los Latinos se mantiene en un 7 punto 8 por ciento, casi dos puntos más alto que el nivel promedio del país.□

Mientras que nosotros nos enfocamos en asegurar un mejor futuro para esta gran nación, líderes Republicanos como el Senador Trent Lott prefieren revivir un pasado lamentable lleno de discriminación en contra de las minorías.□

Los Demócratas seguiremos luchando por regresar a un plan económico de presupuestos equilibrados que garantice un crecimiento económico y que ofrezca más oportunidades de empleos para todos.□

Les hablo Jan Schakowsky, Congresista de Illinois, gracias por escucharme.