

WASHINGTON, DC (December 20, 2011) – Today on the House floor, Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) made the following statement in response to House Republican opposition to H.R. 3630 - Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011:

"I thank you gentlemen for yielding.

Don't blame Congress for not working together. Blame the House Republicans -- who can't even work with each other.

The one and only reason this House of Representatives is not voting for the bi-partisan Senate bill to provide relief to middle class taxpayers, seniors and disabled on Medicare and jobless Americans is because it would pass.

That's right. The Republican scam was to bring up the bill, supported by 90% of the Senate, and kill it.

On the way to this slaughter, a funny thing happened. Sensible Republicans basically said, 'You want me to vote to abandon millions of struggling middle class Americans without the help they need this holiday season? No way!'

The sanctimonious rhetoric you hear today from the Republicans is nothing but talk, baby-talk. If they don't get their way exactly, they won't play.

And so, Happy Chanukah to middle class Americans lighting the first candle tonight who won't get their \$1000 tax break. Happy New Year to our seniors and persons with disabilities who may lose their doctors.

Merry Christmas to the jobless Americans, desperate for work, looking for work, who barely survive on unemployment checks. The House Republicans are the Grinches who stole your Christmas."