

Washington, DC (January 18, 2011) – U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) released the following statement today in response to the House vote to disapprove the President's exercise of authority to increase the nation's debt limit

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“Today’s action has been roundly criticized as nothing more than political theater. For a group that supposedly champions fiscal responsibility, House Republicans have been inexplicably willing to gamble with the full faith and credit of the United States. Instead of focusing on the number one issue for most Americans – jobs – House Republicans continue on an increasingly unpopular path of obstruction.

Most American families do not have the luxury of choosing whether or not they will pay their bills; neither do we as a country. Incredibly, the Republicans are voting against financial obligations that they themselves approved, behaving like deadbeats and attempting once again to create a self-inflicted crisis.

It is not surprising that in the latest New York Times/CBS News poll, the majority of respondents, including half of the Republicans surveyed say Congressional Republicans are responsible for Congress’ inability to make progress on any serious legislation to address the challenges facing the nation. The majority needs to consider the numerous job creation legislative initiatives the President, my Democratic colleagues and I have introduced to put people back to work, and stop playing pointless games. The American people deserve better.”

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