

Washington, DC (February 13, 2012) - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) released the following statement today on President Obama's budget proposal for fiscal year 2013:

“Our top priorities in Congress should be putting people back to work, strengthening our economy, and addressing the rampant income inequality that has decimated the middle class. The President's budget includes initiatives to address each of those challenges and would create jobs, make key investments will set our nation's economy on the right path for the future, and implement fair tax policies that ask more from those who can afford to pay more.

“I am particularly pleased to see that his budget would put people to work rebuilding schools and our communities and create jobs for teachers, firefighters, police officers, and for young people, all proposals that were included in the President's American Jobs Act and in my legislation, the Emergency Jobs to Restore the American Dream Act. Putting Americans back to work will build our economy and bring down the deficit in the long-term.

“The President's budget also makes investments in education, advanced manufacturing, infrastructure, and small businesses that will build the middle class and lay a foundation for our country to be competitive in the 21st-century global economy. Unfortunately, we have already heard from Republican leaders that they reject the President's common sense priorities and will once again offer budget policies to eliminate Medicare's guarantee while cutting needed investments in our people and in our infrastructure – all to protect tax breaks for the wealthiest

among us. The American public deserves a budget that doesn't cater to the top 1% but serves the need of all Americans."

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