

Washington, D.C. (December 20, 2012) – Rep. Jan Schakowsky released the following statement today after House consideration of H.R. 6684 and H.J. Res. 66:

“The American public spoke clearly in last month’s election. They want us to fix our long-term fiscal problems by creating good jobs to restore economic growth and asking the wealthiest among us to contribute their fair share. And they want us to protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Unfortunately, the Republican majority still hasn’t gotten the message. While many Americans are watching the movie *The Christmas Story*, House Republicans are watching *Groundhog Day* – repeating the same failed policies over and over and over again. They want to protect the wealthiest Americans and make everyone else pay the price.

The so-called Plan B proposal brought to the House floor today would provide the average millionaire with a \$108,500 tax cut, according to the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center. It would raise taxes on 25 million families by an average of \$1,000 by reducing tax credits for education, work and children. It would cut the Medicaid program by more than \$24 billion. It would cause at least 300,000 children to lose coverage and would allow states to cut one-third of the people covered by Medicaid and CHIP (children’s health insurance) from the programs. It would eliminate funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund that is providing critical access to cancer screenings and immunizations. And it would set the stage for Republican proposals to raise the age of Medicare eligibility.

It is time for Republicans in Congress to give up their sole priority of shielding the top 2 percent wealthiest households and instead listen to the American people.”

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