



September 11, 2012

Dear Rep. Daniel Webster

Thank you for your leadership in introducing the Prioritize Spending Act, (H.R. 2402).

Debates about the debt limit and finally getting our nation's finances under control need to take place without the specter of a disorderly default process, which would threaten vital national interests. Americans need to be assured that our troops, our national security programs, and the vital programs that serve our senior citizens will have priority and will not be put in jeopardy if the national debt again reaches the debt ceiling and measures have to be taken to reduce how much the government borrows and spends.

In the past, Americans have been bombarded with claims that those who wish to take measures to move our country away from accumulating trillion dollar debts each year imperil these key programs. They've been told to protect those vital programs we must simply green light even more government borrowing.

Yet the reality is that it is our ruinous levels of debt that threaten our nation's prosperity, our global position, and our ability to continue to support federal programs in the future.

Since January 2009, our nation's debt has ballooned from \$10.6 trillion to \$16 trillion. As we approach yet another debt ceiling—which is supposed to help prevent burying the next generations in debt—too many want to simply raise the limit again to allow the orgy of government spending to continue uninterrupted.

Americans deserve better. They deserve a robust conversation about moving toward a balanced budget and the choices that need to be made so that we can protect vital interests and services without sacrificing the prospects of the next generation. Your bill is an important step in allowing such a conversation to take place. It tells all Americans what are priorities are, while reminding them that another priority should be to get our fiscal house in order immediately.

On behalf of the Independent Women's Voice, I thank you for your leadership and encourage all other members of Congress to join you in advancing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "HRH", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Heather R. Higgins
President and CEO
Independent Women's Voice