

SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

KENT CONRAD, RANKING MEMBER

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STATEMENT BY SENATOR KENT CONRAD (D-ND) ON FAILURE OF REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP

With the clock rapidly running out on this fiscal year, the Republican-led Congress is leaving town with much of its work unfinished. The Republican leadership is demonstrating that they are either unable or unwilling to get the job done.

We face red ink as far as the eye can see, with the nation's debt continuing to grow uncontrollably. Yet, the Republican-led Congress has failed to pass a budget and the Senate has not even tried to pass 10 of 12 appropriations bills. Other important legislation remains incomplete or simply ignored.

Most of this legislation has ground to a halt due to Republican in-fighting. This Republican leadership is in total gridlock – refusing to act, refusing to compromise, and refusing to govern.

Instead of leading, Republicans are misleading the American people. They are misleading the American people about what they have accomplished. And they are misleading the American people about what has happened to the fiscal condition of the country under their watch. The American people deserve better.

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