

June 14, 2011

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

## National Taxpayers Union Vote Alert

NTU urges all Representatives to vote "YES" on the Republican Study Committee's (RSC's) amendment to H.R. 2112, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. This amendment would reduce spending by roughly \$4.57 billion compared to FY 2011 levels.

H.R. 2112 provides a praiseworthy starting point for spending restraint through trimming the discretionary non-emergency budget authority for the Department of Agriculture and related agencies by \$2.67 billion compared to the FY 2011 level and \$5.03 billion versus the President's request. Such cuts will be instrumental in erasing the inflated budgetary baselines of the past several years that have substantially contributed to the dramatic rise in our annual deficit.

The RSC amendment builds upon the positive framework of H.R. 2112 by reducing spending an additional \$1.8 billion. Specifically, the amendment would eliminate the often counterproductive Food for Peace program as well as reduce funding for several wasteful and duplicative research programs, such as the Agricultural Research Service and the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Roll call votes on the RSC amendment will be significantly weighted in our annual Rating of Congress and a "YES" vote will be considered the pro-taxpayer position.