

February 5, 2013

## Statement from Senator Alan Simpson and Erskine Bowles On Amendment Proposed by Reps. Schrader, Wolf, Cooper, and Gibson

WASHINGTON, DC - On Wednesday, the U.S. House of Representatives will debate a bipartisan amendment sponsored by Rep. Kurt Schrader (D-OR-5), Rep. Frank R. Wolf (R-VA-10), Rep. Jim Cooper (D-TN-5), and Rep. Chris Gibson (R-NY-19) that calls for the President to submit a budget resolution that would stabilize the debt in the long term, consistent with the principles established by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform - also known as the Simpson-Bowles plan. Fiscal Commission and Moment of Truth Project co-chairs Erskine Bowles and Senator Alan Simpson offered the following joint statement in praise of the amendment:

"We are very encouraged that members of both parties are working together on a bipartisan amendment calling on the President to put forward a budget based on the recommendations of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform (Simpson-Bowles). It is our strong belief that the basic framework and principles set forth in the Simpson-Bowles plan represent the best hope for achieving the broad, bipartisan support necessary to enact a plan to put our nation on a solid path towards fiscal responsibility and reform."

"The amendment echoes the findings of our report that addressing our fiscal challenges will require a bipartisan plan to reform spending programs and the tax code in order to stabilize and reduce the debt as a share of the nation's economy. No plan is perfect, including ours, but it can serve as the starting point for the discussion necessary to produce an agreement that is equally bold and comprehensive and that can get the broad bipartisan support needed to ensure enactment."

"We commend Representatives Schrader, Wolf, Cooper and Gibson for the bipartisan amendment they have put forward and urge their colleagues in the House and Senate to follow their leadership in pushing for a bold, bipartisan plan to bring our debt under control."

Click <u>here</u> to learn more about the Moment of Truth Project.



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The Moment of Truth project is a non-profit, non-partisan effort which seeks to foster honest discussion about the nation's fiscal challenges, the difficult choices that must be made to solve them, and the potential for bipartisan compromise that can move the debate forward and set our country on a sustainable path. The Moment of Truth project is a project of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.

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