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Dear Patriot,

Greetings to our constituents, fellow Floridians, and all Americans. We are getting close to the end of 2011 and still after almost 920 days, the United States is without a federal budget.

Many folks, usually liberals, have been approaching me and saying, "You Republicans need to compromise!" Well let me tell you about a CODEL (Congressional Delegation) trip to Iraq for Thanksgiving I had been planning and the reason it fell short. Since I was there for the first one in November 2003- as a Battalion Commander- I felt in my heart I should be there for the last one, and lend encouragement, gratitude and support to our stellar men and women in uniform before they make the final trip home.

We must have a minimum of three Representatives for a CODEL and there must be at least one from the minority party. Well, we had two Republicans- myself as well as my colleague Congressman Chris Gibson of New York (who is a retired Colonel and his former Airborne Brigade is currently in Iraq)- but we could not get even one Democrat to join us.

Compromise?

Leadership is about vision and conveying truth to those whom one has been chosen to lead. Leadership is not about telling people what you think they want to hear and promising everything for the sake of political gain. When we gaze across the Atlantic Ocean to Greece and Italy, we do not see a failure of liberty, freedom, capitalism or free markets, we see a failure of leadership.

My concern is here in America, we are actually not far off that course. Greece has a debt to GDP ratio somewhere near 128%. This past week, in America we learned our debt to GDP ratio hit 100%. This means, what we owe equals what we produce. This is unconscionable.

Still, all we get from this leadership in the White House is more over-promises from the government, like forgiving student loans. We also get more wasteful government spending schemes such as the American Jobs Act, President Barack Obama's "mini-me" stimulus plan.

We are very close to seeing the dollar no longer being the default currency of the world. The "crony capitalism" emanating from Washington, D.C. manifesting itself

Weekly Video



Article of the Week

CHANNEL365 – Rep. Allen West (R-FL) on Free Trade, Iraq & Defense Cuts

Politics365's Managing Editor Charles D. Ellison speaks with **Rep. Allen West (R-FL)** recently about his controversial House vote for a trio of free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea. The Congressman, representing Florida's 22nd District, also discusses his skepticism regarding plans for a full U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq by the Obama Administration. And, he worries about potentially deep defense cuts triggered by the Joint "Super" Debt Committee now convening.



When asked about recent criticism from conservatives for his support of free trade agreements, West is pragmatic and feels that "[t]he ability to improve the amount of exports coming out of the United States and South Florida to these open markets without restraints and restrictions means we can create more revenue ... and jobs."

Service and Sacrifice

in bailouts and dangerous venture capitalism escapades, such as Solyndra, combined with failing monetary policy, such as "Quantitative Easing III," threaten the overall fiscal health of America.

What we see are countries such as Russia, China, India, Germany, and Brazil becoming the economic powerhouses in the world. All the while, our fiscal, monetary, tax and regulatory policies promote the growth of the bureaucratic nanny-state, not American ingenuity and entrepreneurship.

Even in South Korea this past week, there were protests against the new free trade agreement, as South Koreans fear an influx of cheap goods. If we continue down this path there is one simple question, "who bails out America?" My answer: Americans will bail themselves out -- just as Papandreou may possibly resign. Americans should resign themselves to offering a "pink slip" to our own failure in leadership.

We can't wait.

That is why this past week, I was honored to host 75 business leaders of the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce during a "Fly-In"- as they visited Washington, DC. It is imperative that we have our private sector leaders and small business owners on Capitol Hill as they ask us the hard questions. This is still a Constitutional Republic, regardless of how some may want to fundamentally transform it, and the people are the preeminent owners.

During their trip to DC, the Chamber members had a special session with Army Vice Chief of Staff, General Chiarelli, were addressed by the Israeli Ambassador, Michael Oren, were received at the home of Chilean Ambassador, Arturo Fernandois and his wife Carolina, met with more than 15 bipartisan Members of Congress, and had closing addresses with the First Commanding Officer of U.S. Central Command, Admiral William Fallon, Pulitzer Prize syndicated Chicago Tribune columnist Clarence Page and former United States Secretary of Labor, Elaine L. Chao. These visiting members from the Chamber of Commerce are representative of the incredible spirit of investment and innovation, which will bail out America from this ideology of big government that threatens our future.

Turning to the international front, this week there were reports of Al Qaeda flags flying in Benghazi, Libya. Soon, we shall get a report on Iran from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Kurdish Leader of Iraq and a long-time, staunch supporter of the United States, Massoud Barzani, visited Tehran in a conciliatory manner, bowing before Ahmadinejad and Ayatollah Khamenei. Who in the world would want to expose themselves as having a pro-American orientation? We can't wait.

I want to offer my sincere congratulations to Lynn University President Kevin Ross, his staff, faculty, and student body for being selected to host the final and decisive Presidential debate on October 22, 2012 on their campus. I was pleased I was able to get a letter signed by every member of the Florida delegation – House and Senate – Republican and Democrat – in support of Lynn University's application to the Commission on Presidential Debate.

I also want to congratulate Boca Raton Mayor Susan Welchel for being the host city for this spectacular event.

In conclusion, a sincere Veteran's Day wish to all my brothers and sisters who have been willing to give that "last full measure of devotion" to our nation. I will be paying tribute to our Vets in several events in South Florida, click [here](#) for my schedule. Some gave all, all gave some. 10 November 2011, we shall all revel in celebrating the 236th birthday for the finest fighting force the world has ever known, our United States Marine Corps...Ooh Rah!



Lieutenant Eric DeBolt – US Navy

Hometown: Outside the small farming community of Hagerstown, Indiana

Reserve Unit: 4th ANGLICO- Air Naval Gunfire Liason Company, West Palm Beach

Enlisted in the Navy: August 8, 1996. Commissioned in the Navy May 10, 2002.

Combat Deployments: Oil Platform Security, Iraq Nov03-Aug04; Southern Afghanistan Oct06-Oct07; Al Anbar Iraq Oct08-May09

MOS: Primary: 1115 Surface Warfare Officer

Greatest / most satisfying experience as a Marine:

"I have been working with the Marine Corps since 2008. My most satisfying experience has been working with an organization that truly embraces leadership. Being surrounded by men that are willing to sacrifice themselves, their careers, and their family lives for a cause and take every challenge head on without hesitation, to me it is what defines being a great American."

Why did you join the Marines?

"When I made the decision to leave active duty I still had a desire to serve. I sought out the opportunity to be assigned to a Marine unit because of my previous experiences serving with Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Semper Fidelis, Steadfast and Loyal,



Legislative Update:

- **Improving Small Business Capital Formation** — On Thursday, the House approved H.R. 2930, the Entrepreneur Access to Capital Act, by a vote of 407-17, I VOTED YES. The bill would remove SEC restrictions on “crowdfunding” so entrepreneurs can raise capital from a large pool of small investors who may or may not be considered “accredited” by the SEC. H.R. 2930 would permit “crowdfunding” to finance new businesses by allowing companies to accept and pool donations up to \$5 million without having to register with the SEC.

Also on Thursday, the House approved H.R. 2940, **the Access to Capital for Job Creators Act**, by a vote of 413-11, I VOTED YES. The bill would remove the regulatory ban that prevents small, privately held companies from using advertisements to solicit investors—a Depression-era regulation that unnecessarily limits the pool of investors and severely restricts the ability of small companies to raise capital. Both of these bills would change and update Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulations to promote, rather than hinder, small business access to equity financing—a key mechanism for business expansion in light of tightened lending standards which make a commercial bank loan an increasingly difficult option.

*These are two more bipartisan pieces of legislation, which are part of the GOP Plan for American Job Creators that join over 15 other pieces of legislation sitting on Majority Leader Harry Reid’s desk.

Highlights of the Week:

- **Monday, 31 October**, Happy Halloween, flew back to Washington and welcomed the Fort Lauderdale Chamber Fly-In with a fireside chat at the Wasie Foundation.

- **Tuesday, 1 November**, Gave opening remarks to Fort Lauderdale Chamber and introduced Israeli Ambassador Oren at National Press Club, participated in House Armed Services Committee Panel on Department of Defense business, attended members-only classified briefing on national security with Security of Defense and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, attended Fort Lauderdale Chamber reception at Florida House, introduced Senator Bill Nelson and Congressman Ted Deutch.

- **Wednesday, 2 November**, meeting with former Congressman Barry Goldwater Jr, welcome remarks to Fort Lauderdale Chamber on Capitol Hill Day, signed Holiday Mail for Heroes cards sponsored by American Red Cross, attended House Armed Services Committee full hearing on Defense sequestration with Chiefs of Army, Navy, Air Force, and Commandant of the Marines, lunch with members of the Afghanistan National Assembly, spoke to them about developing a plan for their nation, participated in a special GOP Members meeting on deficit and appropriations, attended Fort Lauderdale Chamber reception at home of Chilean

Marines take the hardest assignments and prevail. Marines don't accept defeat, they never run from a fight. Who wouldn't want to be a part of that?"

Small Business Spotlight



South Florida Bible College & Theological Seminary

Owner - President, Dr. Joseph Guadagnino

Services Provided: Undergraduate and Graduate degrees in Bible, Ministry, Education, Business Management, and Christian Counseling. Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Veteran's Benefits are also available.

of years in business: 31 years

of employees: 45 including faculty

Advertising strategy: Networking with other businesses, ministries, churches and supporting local events in our community.

Tips for surviving the recession; Networking, getting back to the basics and building relationships with small businessmen and women.

Address, contact info: 1100 S. Federal Highway, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441 954-545-4500 www.sfbc.edu Dr. Mary Drabik, Provost

Click below for the U.S. House Jobs Legislation Tracker:

Ambassador - trade and visa policies dominated the conversation.

- **Thursday, 3 November**, gave closing remarks for Fort Lauderdale Chamber visit and introduced United States Secretary of Labor Chao, participated in House Armed Services Committee subcommittee hearing on Irregular Warfare capabilities, received phone call from Federal Aviation Administrator J. Randolph Babbitt regarding an issue I have been working on with Nova Southeastern University, taped remarks for Veterans Committee video for Veteran's Day release.

- **Friday, 4 November**, recorded weekly video address, interviewed by former alumnus of The Benjamin School (North Palm Beach, FL) and current George Washington University student, Cory Weinberg, for a student assignment, took picture with The Benjamin School students on East Capitol steps, flew back to South Florida after final votes.

- **Saturday, 5 November**, attended the 4th ANGLICO Marine Corps Birthday Ball reception, attended the Take Flight Award Gala for the homeless Veterans Home known as Stand Down house.

- **Sunday, 6 November**, church, family and football day!

THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN PLAN FOR
AMERICA'S JOB CREATORS

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Empower Small Business Owners
Small business owners are being bogged down by burdensome regulations from Washington that prevent job creation and hinder economic growth. We must remove onerous regulations that are redundant, harm small businesses, and impede private sector investment and job creation.

Review of Federal Regulations
H.R. 72 - Passed by the House (211-20) on February 11, 2011

INTRODUCED COMMITTEE PASSED BY COMMITTEE PASSED BY THE HOUSE

The Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act
H.R. 972 - Senate has taken no action to date

INTRODUCED COMMITTEE PASSED BY COMMITTEE PASSED BY THE HOUSE VETOED BY THE SENATE IGNORED BY THE PRESIDENT

The Energy Tax Prevention Act
H.R. 970 - Senate has taken no action to date

INTRODUCED COMMITTEE PASSED BY COMMITTEE PASSED BY THE HOUSE VETOED BY THE SENATE IGNORED BY THE PRESIDENT

Disapproval of FCC's Net Neutrality Regulations
H.J. Res. 37 - Senate has taken no action to date

INTRODUCED COMMITTEE PASSED BY COMMITTEE PASSED BY THE HOUSE VETOED BY THE SENATE IGNORED BY THE PRESIDENT

The Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act
H.R. 2018 - Senate has taken no action to date

INTRODUCED COMMITTEE PASSED BY COMMITTEE PASSED BY THE HOUSE VETOED BY THE SENATE IGNORED BY THE PRESIDENT

Consumer Financial Protection & Soundness Improvement Act
H.R. 1215 - Senate has taken no action to date

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