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Dear Patriot,

Greetings to our constituents, fellow Floridians, and all Americans, let me begin by wishing all of you a very happy Thanksgiving. I pray everyone will travel safely and enjoy a special time with family and friends, enjoy the feast and that your favorite football team wins!

Speaking of winning and losing, I am sad to report that the American people have witnessed a collective group of losers in those elected to the United States House of Representatives. It was incredibly appalling for me to sit there and watch the Balanced Budget Amendment fail to get the two-thirds majority necessary on Friday. Now we are seeing the abject failure of the so-called "Super Committee" which was tasked to develop a plan for deficit reduction. Every day it looks like that is not going to happen.

The liberal mantra for describing the Republican Party was "*The Party of No!*" I must agree, they said "No" to a \$2 trillion healthcare law, a \$1 trillion stimulus package, Card Check, and Cap and Trade. However, in my short 11 months on Capitol Hill, I realize the modern-day Democrat Party, primarily controlled by liberal progressives, is "*The Party of No Solutions.*"

The United States of America just exceeded a record \$15 trillion in debt. We now have a debt to GDP ratio of 101%, not that far from Greece (128%) and Italy (120%). Under the failed leadership of President Barack Obama, we have added \$4.4 trillion of new debt in less than three years and have seen three straight years of record deficits; \$1.42 trillion, \$1.29 trillion, and \$1.3 trillion. In 2011, we have seen anemic quarterly GDP growth of only 0.4%, 1.0%, and 2.5%. At this time in the third year of the first term of the Reagan Administration we were at 7-8% GDP growth.

This past week, we had a Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) from President Obama stating they strongly opposed a Balanced Budget Amendment, even though it was the same Amendment that came within one vote of passing in the United States Senate in 1995. We listened to countless Democrats on Thursday and Friday during debate stating this was not the time and this would not help the fiscal morass in which we find ourselves.

Then I ask what is the solution? More government spending? Because that is all the liberals seem to understand. Their convoluted understanding of

## Weekly Video



### ["The Super Committee Failed"](#)

## Article of the Week

### [Rep. West to Media: 'Stop Being Afraid of This President' Who 'Is Destroying This Country'](#)

By Elizabeth Henington  
November 13, 2011  
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(CNSNews.com) - Congressman Allen West (R-Fla.) called on the media to "stop being afraid" of President Barack Obama who is "destroying this country." West made his remarks on Tuesday at a press conference in support of the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline.



"It's about time that I asked this from the media: Stop being afraid of this president," said Rep. West. "Stand up to him and call him out on the shirking of his duties and responsibilities. The House Republicans are passing pieces of legislation, after pieces of legislation about jobs."

"And here we got a president that's gone off to Australia, playing golf in Hawaii, and you guys allow him to make this decision to shut down this Keystone XL project," said West. "The media needs to call out this president and stop coming over here to the House Republicans and telling us what we're not doing. We're the ones taking action. The guy sitting at 1000

### [Rep. West to Media: 'Stop Being Afraid of President'](#)

simple economic principles is just baffling. It makes one believe the liberal agenda is to have more people wedded to a subsistence or government check, so they will be beholden to government and cast their votes to continue more of the same.

Under the Obama Administration we have seen a 41% increase in food stamp recipients, a 16% increase in Americans on poverty, and 48.5% of Americans on some form of government aid. The liberals want and need victims. They need to have a majority of Americans wedded to government. A Balanced Budget Amendment would have put a serious constraint on the liberal ability to come up with more failed bureaucratic nanny-state schemes. The Balanced Budget Amendment would have destroyed the potential ability of "statists" to expand the size and scope of the federal government. We cannot resolve the job situation in America unless we get the investment capital of America back on Main Street.

When combined with the failure of the "Super Committee," the harebrained idea of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, we see the inability of the liberals to present any viable solution beyond *Tax the Rich!*

Paul Krugman stated, "Allow the Super Committee to fail and have sequestration kick-in." Why? Because the liberal progressive mindset is all about punishing the Department of Defense and gutting it to levels which shall threaten the future security of our nation.

Following the lead of their Campaigner-in-Chief, all the Democrats are seeking to stall and be the ultimate obstructionists so they can blame the House Republicans. President Obama is taking a page from President Harry Truman's playbook of running against a "do-nothing" Congress... and a complicit mainstream media is his primary enabler.

The truth is obvious; the Democrats are the "do-nothings," unless destroying the fiscal status of America counts for something. The United States Senate, controlled by Democrat Leader Harry Reid, has failed to produce a budget in over 900 days. The same Senate has 22 job-creating pieces of legislation, passed by the House of Representatives, sitting on its desk, bills that will incentivize and revitalize economic and job growth.

The "Super Committee" will allow President Obama and his liberal acolytes to again say, the Republicans are intransigent. The truth is, as stated by Representative James Clyburn (D-SC) a week ago on Fox News Sunday, the Democrats had no plan. They rejected a plan from Republicans which showed you can stabilize or reduce tax rates combined with eliminating tax loopholes to generate revenues.

President Obama decides to stall on the Keystone XL project, with not a peep from the mainstream media. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder called American a "nation of cowards." The only cowards I see are those in the media who are complicit in not reporting the true story of what is going on in Washington D.C.

I would much rather be a member of a party that says "No" to President Obama's desire to fundamentally transform our America. I am proud to say "No" to continued deficit spending and growth of our debt.

I am pleased to say to my constituents that I voted YES to a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. However, the South Florida media conglomerate should be asking my Democrat colleagues why they do not believe we should balance our federal budget? State Governments balance

## Photos of the Week



[Rep. West packs for soldiers at 'Project Holiday'](#)

## West Calls for Holder to Resign



[Click image for Fast and Furious Press Conference](#)

## Congressman West Statement on the Failure of the Super Committee

(WASHINGTON)--- Congressman Allen West (R-FL) released this statement this morning on the looming failure of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, referred to as the Super Committee:

"The Super Committee was entrusted by the American people and by fellow Members of Congress to work together and come up with a solution to America's fiscal crisis by spending and balancing our budget and finding the means to cut 1.2 trillion dollars over the next 10 years.

The Members of the Super Committee

their budgets, businesses balance their budgets, families balance their budgets.

We just continue to build "Mount Debtmore" with the faces of President Obama, Senate Majority Leader Reid, House Minority Leader Pelosi, and House Minority Leader Whip Hoyer prominently displayed.

In closing, be not dismayed. We have much to be thankful for, as citizens of this great nation, and we will continue to fight for what is right.

Steadfast and Loyal,



## Legislative Lowdown:

- **Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Authorization** — On Tuesday, the House approved H.R. 2838, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2011, by voice vote. The bill would authorize funding for the Coast Guard in Fiscal Years 2012 through 2015. The bill would also authorize funds for the Federal Maritime Commission in each of the Fiscal Years 2012-2015, and would make changes to current law affecting marine safety, marine transportation systems, and the authorities of the Coast Guard. According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), appropriating the amounts authorized by H.R. 2838 would result in discretionary spending of about \$24.4 billion over the Fiscal Year 2012-2016 period.

- **Right-to-Carry** — On Wednesday, the House approved H.R. 822, the National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act of 2011, by a vote of 272-154, I VOTED YES. The bill would allow any person with a valid state-issued concealed firearm permit to carry a concealed firearm in any state that issues concealed firearm permits or that does not prohibit the carrying of concealed firearms. The bill would make no changes to any state's laws on where concealed firearms may be carried within its borders; would not create a federal licensing system; and would not establish a minimum federal standard for a carry permit. Instead, it would require states to recognize each others' carry permits, just as they recognize drivers' licenses.

- **3 percent withholding** — Also on Wednesday, the House approved the United States Senate amendment to H.R. 674. The bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the imposition of 3 percent withholding on certain payments made to vendors by government entities, by a vote of 422-0. The bill would also establish new job training programs for Armed Forces members separating from active duty, create additional requirements for veterans' job training programs, and increase tax credits for employers to hire qualified members of the Armed Forces following their service. In addition, the bill would require all Social Security and Tier 1 Railroad Retirement benefits to be included as part of modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) for purposes of determining eligibility for certain Medicaid applicants and subsidies for health insurance purchased through the new health insurance exchanges to be established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

- **Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations** — On Thursday, the House approved the H.R. 2112 Conference Report, the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012, by a vote of 298-121, I VOTED YES. The

that stepped up to the plate to complete this task promised their country they would put politics aside, and fulfill this important task. Yet, it is apparent to everyone that politics and partisanship is at the very core of this failure. Over the course of the past two months, including dozens of meetings and hearings, this Super Committee has not been able to agree on a single issue that can help move this country forward. I find it appalling that grown adults can not sit down at a table and find a way to negotiate something so important to the future of this nation.

President Barack Obama and his Administration are to blame for the anticipated failure of the Super Committee. He has stood by and done nothing to encourage bipartisanship among this committee. Instead, the President and this Administration would rather sit back and watch automatic cuts kick in that will be devastating to our military- ripping 600 billion dollars from Defense in 10 years. At a time when America's enemies are more emboldened than ever, our military needs to be supported, not shredded.

I am calling on President Obama to step up and be a leader and introduce legislation that will restore these automatic cuts to our military. We can not put our country in danger because of partisan antics. The American people are sick and tired of Washington, DC and there's good reason why. The failure of this Super Committee is an embarrassment to Congress and to the American people. I call upon Members of Congress to learn from this failure and realize that the true victims of these partisan antics and political games are the American people."

## Highlights of the Week:

- **Tuesday, 15 Nov**, Presided over House of Representatives Morning Hour for one- minute and five-minute speeches, participated in the Keystone XL press conference, participated in the Operation Fast and Furious press conference, met with former National Security Advisor Bud McFarlane on energy security,

conference report on H.R. 2112 would provide a total of \$128 billion in discretionary appropriations to provide funding for three Fiscal Year 2012 appropriations bills: Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, and the Transportation-Housing and Urban Development. In addition, the legislation would provide short-term appropriated funding for discretionary government operations at current levels through December 16, 2011. Under a continuing resolution (CR) approved at the end of Fiscal Year 2011, discretionary appropriations are set to expire on November 18, 2011. Known as the "Mini-bus," the conference report would provide \$19.77 billion for Agriculture appropriations, \$52.74 billion for Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS), and \$55.55 billion for Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (THUD). In addition, the legislation includes \$2.3 billion in emergency disaster relief funding which is not subject to statutory discretionary spending caps under the Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA). The conference agreement for the three bills upholds the non-emergency base discretionary level of \$1.043 trillion as agreed to in the BCA.

**- Balanced Budget Amendment** — On Friday, the House failed to approve H.J. Res. 2, proposing a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, by a vote of 261-165, I VOTED YES. If approved by a two-thirds majority of each chamber of the United States Congress and ratified by three-fourths of state legislatures, H.J. Res. 2 would have amended the Constitution to prohibit federal spending in any fiscal year from exceeding receipts for that year. The balanced budget requirement could be waived in a given year if three-fifths of both chambers approve a law to allow spending to exceed revenues. In addition, the amendment would require a vote of three-fifths of both chambers to increase the statutory debt limit. The amendment would also require the president to submit a balanced budget to United States Congress each fiscal year and would require a majority vote of Congress to increase taxes. Under the amendment, the balanced budget requirement could be waived for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect or in any year that the United States is "engaged in military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law."

**- Workforce Democracy and Fairness Act** — On Friday, November 18, 2011, the House approved the rule for consideration of H.R. 3094, the Workforce Democracy and Fairness Act. The bill would pre-empt National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) proposed rulemaking that will significantly change procedures that govern union elections by providing employers just seven days to find legal counsel and prepare their entire case to be presented at a NLRB pre-election hearing. The bill would amend the National Labor Relations Act to require specified waiting periods before unionization hearings and elections can occur.

The bill would amend the National Labor Relations Act to require specified waiting periods before unionization hearings and elections can occur. The bill would also provide minimum and maximum time frames in which action should be taken in response to the filing of election petitions.

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[west.house.gov](http://west.house.gov)

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conducted an interview with WHUR, Howard University radio station.

**- Wednesday, 16 Nov**, attended House Armed Services Committee Classified briefing on Iraq withdrawal; big concern over release of detainees in United States custody to Iraq and the overall post-security situation with no credible America military presence. Just so you know, the plan is for 5,000-6,000 security contractors under United States Department of State control... budget savings? Met with the Israeli Missile Defense Minister to discuss missile defense cooperation in light of the Iranian, Hezbollah, and Hamas threat.

**- Thursday, 17 Nov**, guest speaker at the bi-partisan Member's Prayer breakfast, attended House Armed Services Subcommittee classified briefing on Yemen and Somalia, addressed a Young Entrepreneur Leaders group on the future of entrepreneurship in America, met with three great Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) soldiers on the needs of the Army EOD community... needless to say the movie "Hurt Locker" was EODs boost similar to "Top Gun," attended the Capitol Hill farewell reception for Army Vice Chief of Staff General Chiarelli, a stellar Army leader.

**- Friday, 18 Nov**, participated in the House Armed Services Panel on Business within the Defense Industry, flew back to South Florida... after a disheartening vote on the Balanced Budget Amendment.

**- Saturday, 19 Nov**, finally got back to a nine mile Ft. Lauderdale beach run, spoke to and attended the David Horowitz Freedom Center Restoration Weekend dinner.

**- Sunday, 20 Nov**, Participated in the Delray Beach Sixth Annual Project Holiday packing event to send care packages to our deployed men and women in uniform.

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