United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 15, 2011

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

As the Administration continues to work with Congressional leadership regarding our current budget situation, we write to inform you that we believe comprehensive deficit reduction measures are imperative and to ask you to support a broad approach to solving the problem.

As you know, a bipartisan group of Senators has been working to craft a comprehensive deficit reduction package based upon the recommendations of the Fiscal Commission. While we may not agree with every aspect of the Commission's recommendations, we believe that its work represents an important foundation to achieve meaningful progress on our debt. The Commission's work also underscored the scope and breadth of our nation's long-term fiscal challenges.

Beyond FY2011 funding decisions, we urge you to engage in a broader discussion about a comprehensive deficit reduction package. Specifically, we hope that the discussion will include discretionary spending cuts, entitlement changes and tax reform.

By approaching these negotiations comprehensively, with a strong signal of support from you, we believe that we can achieve consensus on these important fiscal issues. This would send a powerful message to Americans that Washington can work together to tackle this critical issue.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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Mark Udall

Lamar Alexander

Dianne Feinstein

John Hoeven

Amy Klobuchar

Jerry Moran

Jeanne Shaheen

Jon Tester

Ben Cardin

John Barrasso

Ron Wyden

Michael B. Enzi

MARK Pryor

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Tom Carper

Mike Crapo

Chris Coons

Mark Begich

Bill Nelson

John F. Kerry

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Al Franken

Tom Harkin

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Herb Kohl

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