

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

August 9, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

Standard and Poor's recent downgrade of America's credit rating is a serious embarrassment. Clearly, the debt ceiling deal passed by Congress eight days ago – while an important first step – did not do nearly enough to instill confidence in our nation's ability to deal with our long-term debt problem.

S&P believes our political system is so dysfunctional that it will be unwilling to find a fiscal solution. The American people wonder why, in the midst of this crisis, we are on an extended break.

Since last week, the U.S. stock market has plummeted, with the Dow dropping more than 1,000 points. Unemployment remains unacceptably high. Our fiscal and jobs situation is dire and both deserve the full and immediate attention of Congress. We ask you to reconvene the House immediately, and show the American people and the financial markets that Congress can solve these big problems in a bipartisan fashion. We can't afford to wait until September to get back to work.

Sincerely,



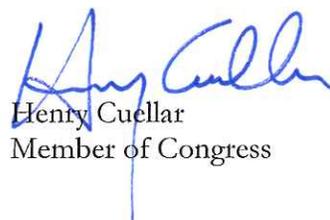
Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress



Mike McIntyre  
Member of Congress



Michael H. Michaud  
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress