

LABRADOR ISSUES STATEMENT ON RESOLUTION CONTINUING UNSUSTAINABLE SPENDING

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Raúl Labrador, R-Idaho, issued the following statement after the House passed a Continuing Resolution extending spending at current levels until December:

“Establishment Republicans have once again partnered with Democrats to ignore our fiscal crisis, rather than join conservatives determined to restore fiscal sanity. Both parties have proven they have no intention of balancing our budget or slowing the growth of our crushing debt. A year ago, our new Republican leadership vowed to complete the regular appropriations process, passing the 12 bills that fulfill the duty of Congress to take good care in spending taxpayer dollars. Today, they punted, refusing to tackle the hard choices that must be made to preserve American prosperity.

“The broken promise leaves me both saddened and angry. I’m saddened because we had made progress in the last five years, trimming annual deficits by nearly 70 percent, from \$1.4 trillion to \$439 billion. The positive trajectory was reversed this year, with the deficit projected to reach \$590 billion. According to the latest projections from the Congressional Budget Office, we’re in for a decade of anemic economic growth and the return of trillion-dollar annual deficits.

“I’m angry because we weren’t permitted to do our work. Rather than complete our most basic job – passing spending bills – leadership sent us out on a seven-week summer recess. Congress should have stayed to meet its responsibilities, but now we’re taking another extended break.

“We appear headed for more of the same when we return in December for a lame duck session, where the unholy alliance will continue to blow through the limits in the 2011 Budget Control Act in order to increase both military and domestic spending. If we don’t mend our ways, our legacy to our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will be economic ruin.”

Dan Popkey
Press Secretary
Congressman Raúl R. Labrador (ID-01)