Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 1, 2012

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

Dear Speaker Boehner:

We respectfully request that our unexpended Members Representational Allowance (MRA) funds leftover from Legislative Year 2011 be treated as a "Gift to Reduce the Debt Held by the Public" under 31 U.S.C. 3113(a) and transferred to the U.S. Treasury to help immediately pay down the national debt.

Together, the undersigned have accumulated more than $1.4 million in unused personal office funding; we believe this funding must be used immediately to address the fiscal emergency caused by our ever increasing national debt. Furthermore, this accumulation is proof that fiscal responsibility is not just something we talk about in press releases but is a personal mission of ours.

We understand that regular order prescribes the unused portions of our MRAs to languish in a shared fund for two years before being transferred to the Treasury. Following this procedure at a time when our public debt surpasses the size of our very economy makes little fiscal sense and is a poor representation of this House's commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Under your leadership, the House of Representatives has taken substantial steps to reduce deficits and address the debt. It is now time for the House to put the taxpayers' money where our mouth is and dedicate our remaining MRA funds to decreasing the national debt.

As freshmen, we came to Congress promising to reduce red tape and eliminate Washington accounting gimmicks- ideals we know you share. We believe immediately transferring our unused MRA funding to debt relief demonstrates that we continue to focus on these principles and represents a stark contrast to President Obama's continued efforts to increase federal spending.

Additionally, we ask that you work with us and our colleagues on legislation that will make debt relief the standard purpose of unused MRA funding. Such a legislative change will make it easier for individual Members of Congress to make personal commitments to paying down the debt.

We thank you in advance for complying with this request and for your continued leadership on this issue.

Respectfully,

JEFF LANDRY
Member of Congress

RAÚL LABRADOR
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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