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CONTACT: Emily Barocas/202-225-7295

LARSON CRITICIZES DEBT COMMISSION PLAN TO CUT SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Offers Common Sense Solution to Lower the Deficit

Washington, DC – Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01), Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, released the following statement after news that the President's debt commission released its plan to reduce the federal deficit and make cuts to Social Security and Medicare.

"I am disappointed with these initial recommendations from the debt commission. As I've said before, any plan to cut Social Security benefits for the elderly and disabled is quite simply dead on arrival.

"We have already proposed a simple plan that would reduce the deficit without hurting America's hardworking middle class. Preserving tax breaks for the middle class while letting the Bush tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans expire would mean billions less in borrowing from foreign countries like China and Brazil; billions less that our grandchildren need to repay. Rather than raising taxes on the middle class by eliminating tax breaks like the mortgage interest deduction and making draconian cuts to our federal budget, let's take a responsible and reasonable approach to lowering the deficit that won't impact our economic recovery and won't make it harder for working families to make ends meet."

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