

floor. That's made by the ranking member of the Budget Committee, one of the leaders of his party, representing your party on the Budget Committee. And I would be glad to make arrangements to have that proposal on the floor.

Would the gentleman want me to do that?

Mr. CANTOR. I say to the Speaker, the gentleman suggests that our ranking member on the Budget Committee, Mr. RYAN's roadmap proposal, is the budget. That is not the budget. That's a 75-year document. The gentleman, I think, knows, if he's looked at that, it is a plan to try and address the very real fiscal challenges that this country faces.

Mr. HOYER. I agree with that.

Mr. CANTOR. And our job here in this Congress is to go about trying to address the problems through the processes that his party has put in place.

Right now, priority one should be a budget. Okay. So if the gentleman is suggesting that perhaps we bring Mr. RYAN's roadmap bill to the floor, a 75-year document, how is that even something that we could expect is a serious gesture to do something about the fiscal needs this country has when his party can't even produce a budget for this fiscal year?

So again I say, Mr. Speaker, let's get serious now. There are a lot of things we can agree on. The budget cut that we brought to the floor today is something that I believe, up-or-down, if his Members were given the opportunity to vote on again and think about without being tainted by some accusation that it may not be for real, these are cuts that are serious. We've got to start somewhere, and the American people have said start here.

So this is what we're about, Mr. Speaker, and I'd ask the gentleman to work with us and bring these types of cuts to the floor.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CANTOR. If the gentleman is really saying that \$2.5 billion is not something that we could start with—as if that's no money. I know he doesn't mean that. And only in Washington somehow has that become a sense that \$2.5 billion is not real money. Of course it is.

But we've got to find ways to work together. And if the gentleman says he'll bring up this bill but he can't support it, then the purpose is not for us to work together. We've got to work together to find a way to solve these problems.

And I'll yield.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I take that as a "no," that you're not interested in having that bill brought up.

But \$2.5 billion is a lot of money, and to the extent we cut \$2.5 billion or \$2.5 million, we ought to do it. You are going to have an opportunity to vote on that \$2.4 billion, 185,000 job-creation

bill probably next week. We're going to have it on the floor. So you'll have a chance to vote on that, I tell my friend.

We do want to work together. And the reason I keep bringing up is not to blame—I said this a couple of weeks ago—not to blame, but to point out the failure of the premise under which you have operated to do what you said it was going to do: create jobs, lower the deficit. In fact, it did the opposite. We followed that economic policy for 6 years. The American public said, We don't like this. And we couldn't change it because President Bush didn't want to change it.

In 2008, they said, We want new leadership. Unfortunately, the legacy we were left was the deepest economic recession as a result of those policies that this country has seen in 75 years. We're trying to dig out. It's difficult to dig out. We have a responsibility, however, to make the tough decisions to dig out.

You and I made a tough decision at President Bush's request in September. In February, we had to make another tough decision. You and I disagreed on that, and that was trying to put money into the economy, trying to stabilize it and bring jobs back. I suggest to the gentleman that that is working. It's not working as well as we would have liked, but we've had 4 months of job growth. Those 4 months, if they're replicated over the next two-thirds of the year, would create more jobs than were created in the 96 months of the Bush administration—1.7 million jobs. One million were created during the entire 8 years of the Bush administration, net.

We have a hole. We need to dig out. The gentleman is absolutely correct: to the extent that we dig together, America will be better. We want to do that.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman. Again, I would respond by saying it is just not all that black and white, and he knows it. There is no way that the blame for what happened can go singly to one party, one administration, or what have you. We all have to come here with the best of intentions to work together and to point to the good in this country and what made us who we are, and that is the freedom and the economic freedom afforded by our system.

Those are the principles by which we come to this building, Mr. Speaker. And some of us have a strong objection to the increasing sense that somehow we've got all of the answers here in Washington, that we don't have to listen to the people.

I'm glad to hear that the gentleman is going to bring some YouCut proposals to the floor. That's a great start. We need to keep listening to the people, doing what it is they expect, which is to get the Federal spending under control.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I look forward to working with Mr. HOYER.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CANTOR. I yield.

Mr. HOYER. What I said was we'll bring the proposal to create those jobs to the floor—not to cut it, but to spend it because we believe that that will create 185,000 jobs. So I just didn't want to be misconstrued in what I said.

The gentleman will have an opportunity to vote against that, of course.

Mr. CANTOR. I apologize, Mr. Speaker, for misunderstanding the gentleman.

I would respond to that statement then by saying the American people have told us to stop spending, to stop spending money we don't have. And that's the purpose for our sponsoring this provision today, the purpose for our launching YouCut, and we will expect to continue to have the votes on listening to the American people to begin to cut the Federal deficit.

But, again, Mr. Speaker, in closing, I look forward to working with the gentleman from Maryland in a fiscally responsible manner which, again, we would hope starts with passing a budget blueprint this year, making some of the tough decisions to cut spending just like the American families and small business people are doing as we speak.

And with that, I thank the gentleman for his time, and I yield back.

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ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY,  
MAY 21, 2010, TO MONDAY, MAY  
24, 2010

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker. I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns tomorrow, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate; and further, that when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, for morning-hour debate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE MARK E. SOUDER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable MARK E. SOUDER, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 18, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, U.S. Capitol,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This letter is to inform you that I have sent the enclosed letter to Governor Mitch Daniels of Indiana resigning my office as the United States Representative for the Third District of Indiana, effective Friday, May 21, 2010.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the people of Indiana.

Sincerely,

MARK E. SOUDER,  
Member of Congress.