

- Chairman Sessions, Ranking Member Slaughter, Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before the Committee in support of my Amendment.
- My amendment is simple. It would sever the pay raise for Members of Congress from the remainder of federal employees. If the amendment passes, only Members of Congress would be affected by the underlying legislation.
- If Congress cannot act responsibly and find a way to achieve fiscal balance, then we should not receive a pay raise.
- I share the concern of many of my colleagues in balancing the federal budget and achieving fiscal balance. We need to make strategic budget decisions, eliminate or reduce programs that are no longer effective, and begin to bring the federal budget under control.
- But we need to do this in a responsible way.
- We should not balance the federal budget on the backs of our federal employees. My amendment permits us to take that vote.
- Sacramento County has 26,000 federal employees. These are hardworking citizens in the Defense Department, Veterans, or other dedicated public servants. Why should

we ask them to sacrifice more without first sacrificing more ourselves?

- Just a few weeks ago, 86 Democrats joined with a majority of Republicans in supporting No-Budget-No-Pay. I was proud to be one of those Democrats.
- Now is the time to set aside partisanship and begin working together to move America forward.
- However, achieving fiscal balance on the backs of our hard-working federal employees is not a solution.
- Thank you.

Co-Sponsors:

- Van Hollan (MD)
- Edwards (MD)
- Connolly (VA)
- Cummings(MD)
- Moran (VA)
- Delaney (MD)
- Loeb sack (IA)
- Bustos (IL)
- Lynch (MA)