

Congressman Pence appeared on *MSNBC's* "Hardball" program to discuss the Tax Day TEA Parties with Mike Barnicle...

Key Excerpts after the jump...

"I think there are many Americans, like John is saying, that are deeply concerned about the sense that Washington, D.C., is - with its massive increases in spending and bailouts and borrowing and more taxes - out of step with the values of Republicans, Democrats and Independents across this country."

"And what's happening today, what's been happening at the grassroots ever since, I think, is a growing tidal wave of discontent in this country that knows we can't borrow and spend and bail our way back to a prosperous America. And they're seeing this Administration, this majority in Congress continuing along that vein. And what you're seeing today in all 50 states, Mike, are Americans - good, decent, hard working Americans that are taking time out of their everyday lives to take a stand for fiscal discipline and fiscal sanity. I commend John and commend every one of the good people here in Indiana for taking that time as well."

"I think for people like John, commentators around the country, those of us who have been fighting on the House floor for fiscal discipline; this isn't just about opposing a Democrat President and Democrat majority because of Democrats. It's about opposing runaway federal spending and a mountain range of red ink that's going to have to be dealt with with either higher taxes on this generation or higher taxes and a lower standard of living on the next."

"I think what you're seeing happen on tax day today with these tea parties is just the latest iteration of what is going to be more public expression, more public frustration of runaway federal spending in Washington, D.C. And if that continues, that wind continues to blow, I really believe that we can see the course and direction of government in our nation's capitol come together and turn in the direction of fiscal sanity."

...before heading down to his hometown of Columbus to participate in the local Tea Party protest. As [the local paper reported](#) :

Pence told the crowd that a lot of people are writing the obituary of conservative values claiming America is moving in a different direction.

The turnout Wednesday proved opposite, the congressman said.

"I believe we're on the verge of the great American awakening," he said.

Pence said that he opposes government bailouts.

He said he takes another kind of message to Washington. One he heard repeatedly Wednesday night: "Enough is enough."