

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Mike Pence appeared on PBS January 25, 2011 to respond to President Obama's State of the Union address.

PBS: "What was your overall impression of the speech?"

Rep. Pence: "My impression of the speech was that the president reflected on the uniqueness of America. He remembered our soldiers; he remembered where the strength of this nation was. That was the good part.

The disappointing part is that it appears that the president is committed to more spending, more government and more of the same of what the American people have rejected on election day last fall."

PBS: "He was committed to more spending in what way? Did you not hear what you wanted to hear in terms of what the cuts were? He did propose a five-year spending freeze. What did you not hear that you wanted to hear?"

Rep. Pence: "Well after an 84 percent increase in domestic discretionary spending in the last two years, the American people know we've got to do better than freezing at the bloated spending levels that we have today. But I think that the discussion about investments, the discussion about making further commitments in a variety of new areas and technologies, is the wrong pathway today. What we ought to be doing is allowing the American people and businesses small and large to keep more of their hard-earned dollars. I do welcome the president's call for tax relief for businesses – we'll work with him on that. But more spending, more borrowing is not the answer to get this economy moving again."