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Below are excerpts from Congressman Pence's appearance on the Sean Hannity Show today:

Fight for Fiscal Discipline

"Well I just thought it was time to pick a fight. I saw Harry Reid go to the floor and call \$61 billion in budget cuts 'mean-spirited, reckless and irresponsible.' When I saw him down there defending the Cowboy Poetry Festival and rolling out the same tired, liberal demagogic rhetoric, I just said, 'Look, they don't get it. It's time to take a stand.' And I just figured it was time to pick a fight. I and 53 other Republicans voted against the three-week Continuing Resolution, but I don't want to be a sore loser, you know. But we've got three weeks left to go and I'm confident going forward that Republicans are determined to make a stand, to dig in, to fight for fiscal discipline, defunding ObamaCare, Planned Parenthood and we're looking forward to it.

"I thought it was a missed opportunity this week. I thought, 'We ought to make a stand, draw a line in the sand this week.' Say 'This far and no further.' But it was an honest difference of opinion among Republicans who are all going to the same place. I want to tell you the opportunity now is on April 8th - that is when this Continuing Resolution ends.

Republicans are United

"I really do believe that House Republicans from Speaker John Boehner all the way down to the newest Member are committed to keeping our word to the American people to reducing

spending levels down to 2008, to defunding ObamaCare including those advanced appropriations in this year, and to defunding Planned Parenthood. I would have liked to have had that fight this week, but the majority made a different call on that. I really do believe that we have the next three weeks to really draw a line in the sand.

"I've been in Washington for ten years. Things don't change in Washington, D.C. until they have to. It will not be possible to change the direction on health care, on values, and the fiscal destiny on this country without a fight. And so I say it's time to take a stand, and I know we're going to do that in three weeks.

"Reasonable people, people on the same team can have differences of opinion and I respect all of my colleagues and consider just about every single one of them to be a personal friend. I will tell you we are coming together, we had the debate this week, we got three more weeks on this. I'm absolutely convinced that we're going to make this fight in three weeks.

"The commitments in the Pledge to America, to reduce to 2008 levels, to repeal or defund or both, ObamaCare, to defund abortion and abortion providers like Planned Parenthood. We're all fighting for the same things."

Nothing's Going to Change Until We Have a Confrontation

"To me, the opportunity that we have is in the Continuing Resolution for this year. Nobody wants a government shutdown, but unless we take a stand, we're going to shut down the future for our children and grandchildren. This is our opportunity to dig in.

"I was shocked – I think it was yesterday that the New York Times actually wrote the phrase, 'Mike Pence is absolutely right.' I was terrified until I read the editorial, and all they were saying I was right about is that nothing is going to change, nobody's going to win or lose in this battle on spending until we have a confrontation. It said, 'Mr. Pence is going to get his confrontation' and I hope they're right. I hope it happens in three weeks, because what was clear to me watching Harry Reid on the floor of the Senate was that they don't get it, they're out of touch with the fiscal crisis facing this country, they're out of touch with the desire of millions of Americans to change the fiscal destiny of the national government. The only way that we're going to get that attitude adjustment for liberals in the Senate is by squaring off with them.

"Well I don't remember it that way. I remember we had a pretty vigorous conversation. It was reported that Kevin McCarthy and I had an argument of some kind. You know, he's an Irishman, I'm from Irish stock. If there's not fists involved for Irishmen, it's not really an argument - in my experience – just kidding about that."

"Well let me say, I know there have been some things written about from congressional aides, but you know, when I opposed No Child Left Behind years ago, when I was the first one out of the gate to oppose the Wall Street Bailout, or Medicare Part D, you always hear from these unnamed aides in stories. I'm a big boy, I can take it, that's fine. What I know in my heart of hearts is that Speaker John Boehner, Leader Eric Cantor, Whip Kevin McCarthy and everyone all the way down to the rank and file are united in our commitment to fight for fiscal responsibility and reform. You're always going to have these people that talk to the press and say unpleasant things, but this team is together, we're committed and we're going to make the fight, I promise you."

Take Action

"The best thing that conservatives across America - Republicans or Independents or Democrats - can do in the next three weeks is call your member of Congress in the House and Senate and say, 'If you will pick this fight I will back you up all the way. I will stand with you, I will come to Washington, D.C. if necessary, and if they accuse you of shutting down the government I'll be standing at your side cheering all the way and telling my neighbors and friends my

Congressman, my Senator is doing what needs to be done to put our fiscal house in order."

"Republicans are coming together around this fight but I tell you we've got three weeks now and you've got millions of listeners all over this country that need to be educating their neighbors and their friends about what the stakes are here."