

U.S. Congressman Mike Pence delivered the following remarks today on the floor of the House of Representatives:

“Since last summer, I’ve urged this Congress to prevent a tax increase that would affect every American in January of next year. So I rise with a heavy heart this morning to simply announce to my colleagues that I believe the short-term tax deal negotiated by the White House and Congressional leaders is a bad deal for taxpayers, will do little to create jobs and I cannot support it.

“Despite the fact that last November the American people did not vote for more deficits, more stimulus or more uncertainty in the tax code, that's just what this lame duck Congress is about to give them. You know, Madam Speaker, there is a reason why Article 1, Section 7 of the Constitution says that all bills for raising revenue are to originate here in the House of Representatives. It's because our Founders believed that when it comes to the people's taxes the people's House should always lead. The process is wrong, the policy's wrong. We perpetuate the uncertainty that's built into our tax code.

“Uncertainly is the enemy of our prosperity. And frankly, we can provide assistance to families struggling in this economy by making the hard choices to pay for it without adding to the national debt.

“The American people have spoken. Let's say ‘no deal’ to this tax deal and get a better deal out of this Congress three weeks from today.”