

I rise today to thank Speaker Pelosi for agreeing to block the next congressional pay raise. As government acts to cap executive compensation and as millions of Americans watch their incomes shrink, a pay raise for Members of Congress would seem glaringly out of touch. If we are going to talk the talk of fiscal discipline, we must also walk the walk of self-restraint. The American people are not getting a pay raise this year, and neither should Congress.

I also wish to thank Dr. Ron Paul and 107 of our colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, who are willing to support H.R. 156, the Stop the Congressional Pay Raise Act. Without the leadership of these Members, so many of them new Members, we may not have taken this important step.