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National Debt Tour Continues with Simpson, Bowles and Bloomberg Pushing for Comprehensive Deal at NYC Event

NEW YORK, NY – Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson, co-chairs of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, joined Mayor Michael Bloomberg today at the second stop on the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget’s (CRFB) National Debt Tour. The setting was the Wall Street Journal’s Viewpoints Executive Breakfast Series in New York City, where an audience of more than 300 senior corporate executives and members of the media heard an in-depth discussion of the need to tackle the federal government’s mounting fiscal concerns.

“Mr. Bowles, Mr. Simpson and Mayor Bloomberg are three of the leading voices in this debate, and we were happy to see that their call for comprehensive policy changes in Washington was well-received by the business leaders in attendance today,” said Maya MacGuineas, president of CRFB. “The National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform’s ground-breaking, bipartisan work created a blueprint for action, and they are now working with leaders like Mayor Bloomberg to help members of Congress lay the foundation for passage of a comprehensive debt deal as soon as possible. Given the fiscal cliff the nation faces, failure to do so could be disastrous.”

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget has kicked off a number of high-profile efforts to turn the national spotlight on deficit reduction and long-term fiscal sustainability, among them the National Debt Tour campaign. The tour kicked off last month in Boston, with an event including Senator Mark Warner (D-VA), former Representative Vin Weber (R-MN), Maya MacGuineas, President of CRFB, and Dave Cote, a former member of the Simpson-Bowles Commission and Chairman and CEO of Honeywell International. The next Debt Tour event will take place in Roanoke, VA on April 18, followed by an event in Minneapolis, MN in late May and an event in Dallas, TX on June 25.



To encourage involvement in the fiscal reform debate from America's job creators, CRFB formed the CEO Fiscal Leadership Council. Members of the Council speak publicly about the need for a bold and bipartisan budget fix, provide strategic guidance and serve as a link between CRFB and other business leaders, and provide financial support to the fiscal reform movement.

In addition, CRFB this week launched a site called www.BeatTheDebt.org, where any concerned citizen can learn more about our fiscal challenges, voice their opinions on solutions, provide support, and contribute to the swelling grassroots movement to get the nation back on a path of fiscal sustainability.

About the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget:

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (www.crfb.org) is a bipartisan, non-profit organization committed to educating the public about issues that have significant fiscal policy impact. The Committee is made up of some of the nation's leading budget experts including many of the past Chairmen and Directors of the Budget Committees, the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of Management and Budget, the Government Accountability Office, and the Federal Reserve Board. The Committee runs a number of on-going projects, most recently The Moment of Truth Project (www.momentoftruthproject.org) and the "Go Big" initiative (<http://www.crfb.org/go-big>), both of which were established to urge Americans and leaders in Washington that significant fiscal reform and deficit reduction is needed.

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