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**HATCH APPLAUDS HOUSE FOR TAKING UP CUT, CAP, BALANCE LEGISLATION;
SAYS SENATE MUST ACT AS WELL**

Hatch Original Sponsor of Senate Version Introduced by Utah Colleague Mike Lee

SALT LAKE CITY – U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) today praised House Republicans for agreeing to take up the House version of the Cut, Cap, Balance Act, legislation that mirrors what Hatch introduced earlier this month in the Senate along with a group of his Senate colleagues led by Senator Mike Lee. The Cut, Cap, Balance Act would slash spending, impose strict spending caps, and require passage of a balanced budget amendment before Congress can raise the debt ceiling.

Hatch is the lead Senate sponsor of a constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment that has garnered the support of all 47 Senate Republicans.

“Today, the House has acted responsibly by taking up this must-pass legislation that would slash our skyrocketing debt – it’s time for the Senate to take it up as well,” said Hatch. “There is only one plan to get our spending and debt under control – and it’s Cut, Cap, Balance. This is what the people in my state of Utah are rightly demanding and I will work to make it a reality. I will be talking to Senate leadership about the need to consider this legislation over the coming weeks.”

The Senate version of the Cut, Cap, Balance Act would immediately reduce Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 spending by \$142 billion; divide federal outlays into six categories and impose a separate spending cap on each one from 2012 to 2021; and require the passage of the Hatch-Lee Balanced Budget Amendment (or some other similarly effective amendment) before Congress can increase the nation’s debt limit.