

Dear Friends:

Today the Senate voted on a measure to increase the government's borrowing limit and require more than one dollar of spending cuts for each dollar in debt limit increases. The plan, which will now go to the President for his signature, will not make immediate cuts to Medicare spending or mandatory spending programs like the [Prevention and Public Health Fund](#) (<http://obesityactionfund.org/userfiles/07.21.11GroupsUrgeProtectionPreventionFund.pdf>) — which stands to help curb obesity-related spending over the long-term. However, cuts to these programs remain possible in the near term.

The measure creates a 12-person bipartisan, bicameral committee tasked with finding at least \$1.2 trillion in future deficit reduction by November 23 – including from tax reforms, discretionary spending and entitlements. A failure to adopt the committee's recommendations by December 23 would result in \$1.2 trillion in spending cuts divided equally between defense and domestic spending, including Medicare.

The bill is expected to be signed into law immediately, whereupon lawmakers will begin the process of assembling the joint committee and evaluating spending cuts. While this process will be undoubtedly arduous, the [Campaign to End Obesity Action Fund](#) (<http://obesityactionfund.org/page.asp?id=19>) will continue to work with lawmakers to consider the [costs associated with the obesity epidemic](#) (<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/healthcare/173523-cutting-obesity-prevention-is-quick-fix-and-long-term-nightmare>) — amounting to \$168 billion a year— and the long-term fiscal benefits of preserving programs that encourage obesity prevention and treatment.

Rebecca Einhorn | Communications Director | Campaign to End Obesity Action Fund
805 15th St. NW | Suite 650 | Washington, DC 20005
Tel: (202) 280-1963 | www.obesityactionfund.org