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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6100

March 12, 2012

The Honorable Kent Conrad
Chairman
United States Senate Committee on the Budget
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Conrad:

The Senate Committee on the Budget is required to report a budget resolution for fiscal year 2013 by April 1, 2012. Before we act, and as a prerequisite for any fiscal progress in the country, it is critical that we have a comprehensive understanding of how the president's health care law will impact this nation's unsustainable debt course.

Last week, Secretary Sebelius testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee regarding the president's FY 2013 budget proposal. Senator Johnson asked Secretary Sebelius to explain the Administration's recent estimates of a \$111 billion increase in the cost of the premium subsidies. Secretary Sebelius was unable to explain either the cause of the increase or how the new estimate, along with the termination of the fiscally discredited CLASS Act, would alter the deficit impact of the president's health care law. This is critical information for any financial plan for the country.

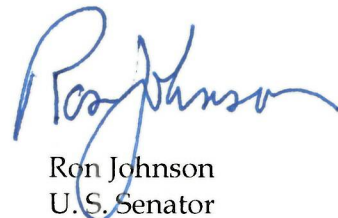
Given these revelations, it is essential that the Committee on the Budget conduct a hearing with Secretary Sebelius as soon as possible. It is a major adverse fiscal development that only two years after the president's health care law was passed, the costs seem to be soaring.

It appears that when the full facts are known, the ominous debt threat the nation faces will be much worse. It is imperative that we have a full hearing to analyze this troubling development.

Very truly yours,



Jeff Sessions
Ranking Member



Ron Johnson
U. S. Senator