

Thursday, December 22, 2011

*Santa Fe, NM – Congressman Ben Ray Luján released the following statement today after Speaker John Boehner announced that the House will seek unanimous consent to pass legislation to extend the payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits and to prevent a cut to Medicare providers for two months.*

“After threatening the American people with a tax hike to start the new year, House Republicans have finally agreed to stop standing in the way of a bipartisan agreement that provides Congress with a path forward for a full year extension of a payroll tax cut. Taking action on bipartisan legislation to provide a two-month extension will ensure that 900,000 middle-class New Mexicans will not face a tax hike, nearly 13,000 New Mexicans will not see their unemployment benefits end, and 48 million seniors will not lose access to the doctors they trust. It’s long past time to get this done for the American people in order to strengthen middle-class families during these difficult times.

“It’s unfortunate that House Republicans once again brought us to the brink – risking the economic well-being of millions of Americans. With the passage of this bipartisan agreement, Congress can turn its focus to a long-term extension while giving middle-class families a guarantee that these important provisions will not expire at the end of the month.”

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