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January 13, 2017

The Honorable Jim Renacci United States House of Representatives 328 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Renacci,

I write in support of H.Con.Res. 8, the Fiscal State of the Nation Resolution. This commonsense resolution requires the Comptroller General of the United States to present a financial report of the United States before a joint session of Congress.

Financial statements for the United States are already compiled, but are buried in 300 page reports. As a result, important information on the federal government's assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses, and sustainability of programs are often ignored or missed by Members of Congress, the media, and the public.

The country is approaching \$20 trillion in debt and the long-term sustainability of important federal programs remains uncertain. At the same time, billions in taxpayer dollars are wasted on unnecessary or inefficient programs. By requiring an annual update on the long-term financial health of the country, your resolution helps ensure our nation's finances remains at the forefront of public discussion.

This information financial information is already available but is all too often missed or ignored. I urge all Members of Congress to co-sponsor and support this important resolution.

Onward.

Grover G. Norquist

President, Americans for Tax Reform