

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Congressman Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., today co-sponsored the “Stop Pay for Members Act,” legislation that would block members of Congress from receiving a paycheck should they fail to prevent the country from slipping into default.

“Members of Congress should not be rewarded for failing to fulfill their basic responsibilities,” said Buchanan. “Congress and the President need to put aside partisanship and do what’s in the best interest of the country.”

Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner has stated that America will suffer its first default in history if it fails to raise the debt limit by August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

If the country slips into default experts say the federal government would only be able to pay 60% of its obligations. The “Stop Pay for Members Act” would place members of the House and Senate dead last on the list of priority payments, ensuring Members would not get paid during a default because there would not be enough money available.

Buchanan also introduced legislation earlier this year, H.R. 2653, preventing Members of Congress from getting a pay raise until the federal budget is balanced.

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