

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) released the following statement today after Republicans on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee voted to once again ask federal employees to contribute to deficit reduction, while refusing to ask the wealthiest Americans to do so (to read an op-ed by Whip Hoyer in today's *Federal Times*, [click here](#)):

"I am very disappointed that Republicans on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee once again called federal employees to contribute to deficit reduction while refusing to ask the same of millionaires and billionaires. Today's vote to impose a 5% cut on employees' take-home pay and reduce the federal government's contribution to their retirement accounts is just one more example of the ongoing assault by Republicans against those who have chosen to serve this nation in civilian service.

"Federal employees stepped up to the plate last year by accepting a two-year pay freeze, and they were asked to contribute again this year through higher out-of-pocket contributions by new employees into retirement accounts, contributing to a total of \$75 billion toward deficit reduction over the next ten years. Getting America's fiscal house in order remains one of our most pressing and most difficult challenges, and I will continue to push for a comprehensive deficit reduction solution that is big, bold, and balanced – and does not ask only one group of middle-class Americans to carry the burden. I call on Republicans to stop targeting federal employees and start working with Democrats on finding serious, responsible solutions to our deficit challenge."