

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, a majority in the House of Representatives voted to reject legislation to extend for two months President Obama’s payroll tax cut for 160 million middle class working Americans, unemployment insurance benefits for 2 million Americans, and avoid a 27 percent reduction in Medicare payments to physicians. Before voting for the legislation, Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and Ranking Member of the Social Security Subcommittee, delivered the following remarks on the floor of the House:

**“My friends, we've seen this movie before. House Republicans once again are driving our government and our economy to the edge of the cliff. And this time they placed 160 million workers and 48 million of seniors in the front seat of that car.”**

**“House Republicans leaders are refusing to allow 435 members of this House to vote on a bipartisan proposal passed by 89 out of 100 Senators next door. My Republican colleagues know that this bipartisan bill passed by the Senate would pass on this floor and it would save working Americans from having their taxes increased during the holidays.”**

**“The truth is Republicans are feuding amongst themselves. House Republicans are fighting with Senate Republicans and quite frankly they're fighting with Republicans throughout this country because a majority of them support the president's payroll tax cut.”**

**“Mr. Speaker, once again the people, Republicans and Democrats alike, are way ahead of the politicians. They want us to get our work done and get it done now. Let's stop showing the American people B-rated movies on the floor of the House and pass the Senate bipartisan legislation.”**

