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**AMASH: JOBS SPEECH MUST FOCUS ON PRIVATE SECTOR**  
*REPRESENTATIVE SAYS FAILED POLICIES OF MORE SPENDING, MORE DEBT WON'T GROW ECONOMY*

Washington, D.C. – Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI) urged President Obama to focus on private sector growth ahead of the President's speech to a joint session of Congress this evening.

“The federal government already has tried using more spending and more debt to resuscitate the economy. That experiment failed,” said Amash. “The President should have the courage to acknowledge when he's wrong, and there's no doubt his economic policies have been dead wrong.”

Reports indicate the President will call for more spending projects and extensions of unemployment benefits and payroll tax rates—all proposals the President has used over the last two years.

“We need a fresh approach that focuses on growing the private sector, not the government,” said Amash. “By reducing government's size and scope, Congress can give the private sector room to do what it does best: create value and sustainable jobs.”

Amash and other members of the House have put forward a number of proposals that would encourage private sector growth.

- Amash authored the Business Cycle Balanced Budget Amendment, which requires the government to live within its means by tying the current year's spending to the average revenue from the prior three years. The proposal has broad, bipartisan support.
- Amash supports ending special tax breaks and subsidies while lowering rates. Amash has cosponsored three separate bills to lower corporate and capital gains taxes.
- The REINS Act, likely to be considered later this year, requires any new regulation that costs the private sector \$100 million or more to be put up for a vote in Congress. To roll back current regulations, the House voted in April to halt dozens of costly new EPA proposals, and one of the first acts of this Congress was to repeal the President's onerous health care legislation.
- The House has passed numerous bills to encourage domestic energy production, which could lower fuel costs. For example, the House voted in May to end the de facto drilling ban in the Gulf of Mexico.

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