December 16, 2010

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"Mr. Speaker, as we work to close out this session of Congress, members of this house today will vote on a major piece of legislation to extend tax cuts for every American. While this bill is expected to help provide a boost to our economy, perhaps equally important is the way we arrived at this stage in the legislative process, through bipartisan compromise.

"This bill was the result of negotiation between Republicans and Democrats, between the President and the Congress, and between the House and the Senate. This bill, which we're going to pass today and send to the president, is the result of the type of give and take negotiations that's supposed to be part of the legislative process but unfortunately has long been lacking in Congress.

"Hopefully passage of this bill today will be but a sign of things to come. I hope the new

Republican leadership in Congress taking office January 5 will incorporate all points of view, Republicans and Democrats alike, and continue working in a bipartisan way to put the American people ahead of partisan politics."