

**December 30, 2012**

WASHINGTON – U.S. Congressman John Barrow (GA-12) today urged his colleagues to join him in opposing the pay increase for Members of Congress and other elected officials, as dictated by an Executive Order from the President of the United States on December 27, 2012.

"At a time when American families face real hardship, it would be irresponsible to allow Congressional pay to increase. Too many families face uncertainty in the New Year for Congress to get a bonus," said Congressman Barrow. "Folks expect us to be looking out for them, not ourselves, and we should be working to lower taxes, cut spending, and get our nation's debt under control. Congress should get to work, and I urge the House leadership to do anything and everything possible to stop this pay increase for Members of Congress right away."

The Executive Order called for a pay increase for Members of Congress and other elected officials of 0.5 percent after March 27, 2013. During tonight's votes, Congressman Barrow will urge his colleagues to sign his letter to House Leadership urging them to bring legislation to the floor to block the pay increase. The text of the letter is below.

To view the Executive Order, please [click here](#) .

Full text of the letter to House Leadership:

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader Cantor, Leader Pelosi, Whip Hoyer,

We oppose the pay increase for Members of Congress granted by Executive Order on

December 27, 2012. The Executive Order would raise our salaries by \$900 per year, beginning March 27, 2013.

We believe that it is inappropriate for Members of Congress to receive a pay increase of any size while American families and taxpayers continue to face tough economic times.

We urge you to bring legislation to the floor to stop this pay adjustment as soon as possible.

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