

September 20, 2007

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
361-A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

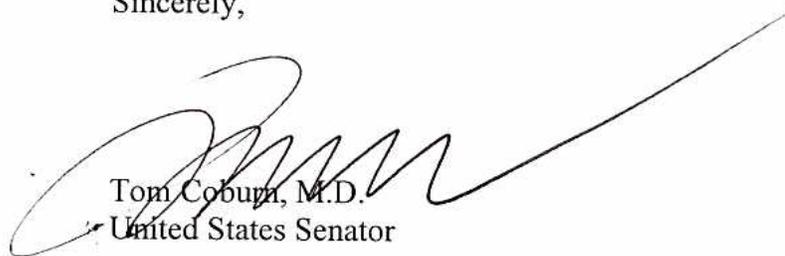
Dear Senator McConnell:

I write to inform you that I wish to be consulted prior to the consideration of any measure to increase the federal debt limit, and that I fully intend to require the Senate to openly debate the propriety of increasing the debt limit in the absence of meaningful budget reform. In addition, I believe that each individual Senator should vote and go on record as either supporting or opposing a debt limit increase.

Congress should be required to make the same difficult choices about financial priorities that are made every day by American families. It's no wonder that only 11 percent of the American public has a positive view of Congress. Congress earned its dismal reputation when it voted last week to fund bike paths and other pork projects instead of bridge repairs.

The debate over whether to increase the debt limit provides Congress with yet another opportunity to show American taxpayers that it has the courage to make tough decisions about spending priorities. As such, I respectfully request that you protect my rights as a United States Senator regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,



Tom Coburn, M.D.
United States Senator