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Washington Fiscal Summit Brings Together Key Administration and Congressional Leaders to Discuss America's Long-Term Fiscal Challenges

*2012 Fiscal Summit, convened by Peter G. Peterson Foundation on May 15, with participants including President **Bill Clinton**, Speaker of the House **John Boehner**, Secretary of the Treasury **Timothy Geithner**, Senator **Rob Portman**, Congressman **Paul Ryan**, Congressman **Chris Van Hollen**, Congressman **Xavier Becerra**, and National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform Co-Chair **Alan Simpson**, features discussions about the fiscal, economic and political crossroads facing the country.*

Washington, D.C. -- Against the backdrop of upcoming elections, and with a series of key fiscal deadlines approaching at the end of the year, the Peterson Foundation's **2012 Fiscal Summit - America's Case For Action** convenes the nation's leading fiscal policy experts and elected officials at a critical moment of opportunity to make progress on America's long-term fiscal challenges.

Now in its third year, the Fiscal Summit has become the premier annual gathering dedicated to advancing solutions to America's long-term fiscal challenges. At the Foundation's 2010 Summit, participants discussed the fiscal challenge, and the need to take action on the nation's unsustainable long-term debt and deficits. A year later, the second annual Summit brought together key elected leaders and experts from across the ideological spectrum to outline a variety of concrete fiscal solutions. Through a series of interviews, presentations and panel discussions, this year's Summit will explore the opportunity and urgent need for action on our fiscal challenges, as well as highlight the voices of citizens from across the country.

With tax cuts set to expire and automatic spending cuts approaching at the end of this year, the nation's leaders have more incentive than ever to work together to put the country back on a long-term sustainable path. A recent [survey](#) commissioned by the Peterson Foundation showed that the American people are ready for action on fiscal issues - large majorities of both conservative and liberal voters want both parties to work together to solve our long-term fiscal problems, and voters across the board indicated they are willing to do their part to reduce the national debt.

"The greatest threat to our nation's future growth, prosperity and opportunity is our unsustainable fiscal path," said **Foundation Chairman Peter G. Peterson**. "The goal of the Fiscal Summit is to bring people from across the ideological spectrum together to help build the political will necessary to achieve major fiscal reform. Americans have shown they are ready for a solution and willing to do their part, and the key fiscal events at the end of the year represent a real opportunity for Washington to get something

done. What we need to do is agree to a long-term fiscal plan now that gets implemented when the economy recovers. We cannot kick the can down the road forever, and the sooner our leaders agree on a long-term plan, the easier it will be."

Summit participants include:

- **President William J. Clinton**,
42nd President of the United States
- **Speaker John Boehner**,
Speaker of the House
- **Secretary Timothy Geither**,
Secretary of the Treasury
- **Senator Rob Portman**, Member, Senate
Budget Committee
- **Congressman Paul Ryan**, Chairman,
House Budget Committee
- **Congressman Chris Van Hollen**,
Ranking Member, House Budget
Committee
- **Congressman Xavier Becerra**, Member,
House Budget Committee
- **Senator Alan Simpson**, Co-Chair,
National Commission on Fiscal
Responsibility and Reform
- **Mayor Michael Nutter**,
Mayor of Philadelphia
- **Jay Fishman**, Chairman and CEO, The
Travelers Companies
- **Kathleen Hall Jamieson**, Elizabeth Ware
Packard professor of Communication at
the Annenberg School for
Communication
- **Carmen Reinhart**, Weatherstone Senior
Fellow at the Peterson Institute for
International Economics
- **Patricia Murphy**, Political
Correspondent, *The Daily
Beast/Newsweek*
- **Pete Peterson**, Chairman and CEO,
Peter G. Peterson Foundation
- **Michael A. Peterson**, President and
COO, Peter G. Peterson Foundation

Interviewers and Moderators include:

- **George Stephanopoulos**, Anchor, ABC's
Good Morning America and *This Week*;
Chief Political Correspondent, ABC
News
- **Tom Brokaw**, Special Correspondent,
NBC News
- **John Harris**, Editor and Co-Founder,
POLITICO
- **David Wessel**, Economics Editor, *The
Wall Street Journal*
- **Judy Woodruff**, Co-Anchor, *The PBS
NewsHour*
- **Erin Burnett**, Anchor, *Erin Burnett
OutFront*

Click here to watch a live stream of the Summit: www.pgpf.org/FiscalSummit

Quotes from the Summit will be live tweeted. Follow us on Twitter at [@FiscalSummit](https://twitter.com/FiscalSummit).

Following the Summit, photos can be accessed here: www.pgpf.org/FiscalSummit/PressCenter

About the Peter G. Peterson Foundation

The Peter G. Peterson Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established by Pete Peterson –

businessman, philanthropist, and former U.S. Secretary of Commerce. The Foundation is dedicated to increasing public awareness of the nature and urgency of key long-term fiscal challenges threatening America's future and to accelerating action on them. To address these challenges successfully, we work to bring Americans together to find and implement sensible, long-term solutions that transcend age, party lines and ideological divides in order to achieve real results. To learn more, please visit www.pgpf.org.

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