



BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { X } _____ ACTION { } _____ CLOSED MEETING { } _____

SUBJECT: ITEMS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

January 7, 2013.....AGENDA ITEM: 12-13: 15.



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4606

November 30, 2012

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
BUDGET
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Mrs. Sue Hirsh
School Superintendent
Bath County Schools
PO Box 67
Warm Springs, VA 24484-0067

DEC 2012
Received
Bath County
School Board

Dear Mrs. Hirsh,

Thank you for contacting me regarding spending cuts agreed to in the Budget Control Act of 2011, and the effect that they will have on federal support for education. I appreciate hearing your views on this important issue.

The sequester was adopted with broad bipartisan agreement as a "poison pill" to compel the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction to act on the deficit and debt. Automatic, across the board cuts are a blunt and arbitrary way to address our country's fiscal challenges, and nobody, including me, wants to see the sequester cuts take effect. However, I do not believe we can simply kick the can down the road and allow our deficit to get worse. As the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullen, has recently said, the greatest threat to our national security is our national debt.

This is why both parties need to come together to replace the sequester with a balanced plan that adequately reduces our debt and deficit. Congress cannot continue to put off making the tough decisions required to address our debt and deficit challenges. Repealing the sequester without locking in a sensible, balanced deficit reduction plan risks disrupting the credit markets and harming our economic recovery because it will signal that Congress lacks any real commitment to deficit reduction. We also need to recognize that recent efforts to reduce spending have focused solely on domestic discretionary programs, and that a viable solution must include defense spending and entitlements.

I am continuing to work to build bipartisan support for addressing our long-term fiscal challenges. Last year, I put forward a plan with a bipartisan group of senators to address our debt and deficit. This plan was based on the Simpson-Bowles Commission recommendations and reduced future deficits by \$4 trillion through roughly \$3 of spending cuts for every \$1 of new revenue. It provided a solid basis for a bipartisan, comprehensive, and balanced solution. As we move forward, our bipartisan group of Senators will continue to work with our colleagues in both the House and the Senate to build support for a comprehensive plan.



Again, thank you for contacting me. For further information or to sign up for my newsletter please visit my website at <http://warner.senate.gov>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark R Warner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "M" and "W".

MARK R. WARNER
United States Senator

MRW/VIP

