

## **Members of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction**

Sen. Jon Kyl is the Republican whip and a senior member of the Finance Committee. Kyl is in his third term in the Senate after serving four terms in the House of Representatives. He will retire at the end of this Congress. Kyl was the Senate Republicans' lead negotiator in the deficit reduction talks led by the vice president over the summer.

Sen. Pat Toomey is a member of the Budget, Banking, Commerce and Joint Economic Committees. Toomey is in his first term in the Senate after serving three terms in the House of Representatives. Sen. Toomey has run a small business and served as the president of the Club for Growth.

Sen. Rob Portman is a member of the Budget Committee and serves on the Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management (Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee). Sen. Portman is in his first term in the Senate. He served in the House of Representatives from 1993 to 2005 when he became the U.S. trade representative and then director of the Office of Management and Budget. In the House of Representatives, he served as vice chair of the House Budget Committee and as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee. In 1997, Portman co-chaired the National Commission on Restructuring the Internal Revenue Service with Sen. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska.

Sen. Max Baucus, the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, was elected to the Senate in 1978 after serving two terms in the House of Representatives. He has a moderate record among Democrats and has a reputation for trying to reach consensus with Republicans. In 2000, Baucus voted for the Bush tax cuts. Under his leadership, the Finance Committee has held hearings on tax reform almost every week the Senate has been in session.

Sen. John Kerry, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, was elected to the Senate in 1985 after serving one term as lieutenant governor of Massachusetts. Prior to becoming chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, he served as chairman of the Small Business Committee. He is one of the leading liberal members of the Senate.

Sen. Patty Murray, Democratic conference secretary, is a member of the Appropriations Committee and the Budget Committee. As a "citizen-lobbyist" for environmental and educational issues, she says she was once told by a state representative that she couldn't make a difference because she was just a "mom in tennis shoes." The phrase stuck, and she later used it in her 1993 campaign for the United States Senate. Sen. Murray is the current chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. She also served as chairman of the DSCC from 2001 to 2003.

Rep. Dave Camp, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, was elected to the House in 1990. He is a leading proponent of tax reform. Under his leadership, the Ways and Means Committee has held more than a dozen hearings on tax reform. Camp has stated that he would like to broaden the tax base by reducing or eliminating tax expenditures while lower the corporate tax rate to 25 percent.

Rep. Jeb Hensarling, the House Republican Conference chairman, was elected to the House in 2002. A leading conservative in the House leadership, he began his career in Washington working for Sen. Phil Gramm. In addition to his leadership position, Hensarling serves on the Committee on Financial Services.

Rep. Fred Upton, chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, was elected to the House in 1996. The Energy and Commerce Committee shares jurisdiction over Medicare and Medicaid with the Ways and Means Committee. Upton is the most moderate of the three House Republican appointments.

Rep. Chris Van Hollen is the ranking Democrat on the House Budget Committee and former chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. He was elected to the House in 2002 after serving in the both the House and Senate of the Maryland General Assembly. Earlier this year, Leader Pelosi appointed him to serve on the budget working group headed by Vice President Joe Biden.

Rep. Jim Clyburn, the assistant Democratic leader, was elected to the House in 1992. Clyburn served as the majority whip from 2007 to 2010. Earlier this year, Leader Pelosi appointed him to serve on the budget working group headed by Vice President Joe Biden.

Rep. Xavier Becerra, the Democratic Caucus' vice chairman, is a member of the Ways and Means Committee. He served on the special White House deficit-reduction commission last year co-chaired by former Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., and former White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles. Becerra voted against the commission's recommendations.