

SCOTT RIGELL
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4602

January 13, 2012

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. Warren Buffett
Berkshire Hathaway Inc.
3555 Farnam Street
Suite 1440
Omaha, NE 68131

Dear Mr. Buffett,

I appreciate and gladly accept your generous offer to match contributions that Republican Members of Congress make to pay down the federal debt. I voluntarily contribute 15% of my Congressional salary to pay down the debt, which amounted to \$23,103.33 in 2011. My contribution in 2012 will be approximately \$26,100.

Please let me know what documentation you require to fulfill the offer. In the hope that your offer is retroactive, I have enclosed a copy of my federal pay stub which reflects my after-tax contribution in 2011 to the United States Treasury.

Though we differ on tax policy, as fellow Americans and businessmen I know that we share this common bond: a deep concern over the state and trajectory of our country's finances. As we work together to find common ground, please know that I appreciate your participation – and that of every American who makes the effort to stay informed and engaged – in this critical discussion.

With kind regards, I remain

Yours in Freedom,



Scott Rigell
Member of Congress

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC.

1440 KIEWIT PLAZA
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68131
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WARREN E. BUFFETT, CHAIRMAN

January 17, 2012

The Honorable Scott Rigell
327 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rigell,

I received your letter today and am heartened by both your contributions and your thoughts. I'm particularly impressed that you took this action before my challenge. I will be delighted to match both your 2011 and 2012 contributions and need no documentation; your word is good with me.

I plan to send along my match to the Treasury around April 20th, after I've had a chance to hear from everyone. You are the first to respond, but I hope your action spurs an intramural rivalry between Republicans and Democrats.

This would be a form of competition between the two parties that the American public would applaud. "Rivalry" in this matter might possibly lead to better cooperation between the two parties and it also might be helpful in restoring the faith of the American people in Congress. This is much needed and even small steps are important.

If you are ever traveling near Omaha, I would enjoy getting together with you. As you say, we may differ on tax policy, but we almost certainly agree on the necessity to dramatically reduce the deficit *soon* (see my attached op-ed from the New York Times of August 19, 2009). We also very likely agree that spending must drop to 20-21% of GDP along with revenue increasing to 18-19%. Surely, there is a way that a Congress that has dealt with all of the problems our country has faced over more than two centuries can deal with this one.

Again, thanks for the contribution you have made and I hope to meet you personally.

Sincerely,



Warren E. Buffett