

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Putnam: Today's Jobs Report a "Wake-Up Call for Washington"

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WASHINGTON – Following the release of the latest U.S. Department of Labor jobs report, U.S. Rep. Adam Putnam (R-FL), Chairman of the House Republican Conference, issued the following statement on the threat to our economy posed by the Democrat majority's agenda:

"A year to the day after Nancy Pelosi took hold of the Speaker's gavel, today's jobs report highlights the harmful effects of her party's anti-growth, high-tax economic policies. In addition to unemployment being at a two-year high, gas prices have risen by over 30 percent under the Democrat Congress, while the Dow has gone down.

"These are all headwinds the American consumer faced in 2007 with great resilience, keeping our economy growing despite a majority party in Washington bent on creating new budget-busting entitlements and red tape-ridden domestic programs. Republicans will continue to stand up for the common-sense notion that keeping taxes low and holding the line on spending is the best way to empower our country's risk-takers to do what they do best and keep our workforce competitive. We will continue to work toward an energy strategy that actually creates new American energy and brings down costs for consumers, rejecting the tax hikes and price spikes at the center of the Democrat agenda.

"These numbers are a resounding wake-up call for Washington. Working families are doing all they can to get by right now – but with home prices going down, gas and home heating prices going up, and health care costs out of control, the breaking point can't be far off. When Congress gets back to work this month, Republicans and Democrats should come together to address these challenges front and center."

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