

**Aric Newhouse**

Senior Vice President  
Policy and Government Relations

August 1, 2011

U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support the Budget Control Act of 2011.

There is a very pressing and immediate need to increase the debt ceiling to avoid a default by the government on its financial obligations. Our nation has never defaulted in the past and we must continue to meet our financial obligations. Failing to raise the debt limit in a timely fashion will seriously disrupt our nation's economy and threaten manufacturers' ability to create high-paying jobs. We believe these goals will be met via passage of the Budget Control Act of 2011.

At the same time, manufacturers are very concerned with our nation's finances and the impact on the overall economy. It is clear that our nation cannot move forward on economic growth without a strong financial base. Getting the federal deficit under control clearly is a key part of the equation.

The Budget Control Act puts us on a path toward addressing our nation's fiscal crisis over the long term. Moving forward, manufacturers are committed to working with policymakers in addressing our nation's fiscal challenges to ensure a pro-growth, pro-competitiveness, pro-manufacturing economy, with the recognition that some programs are critical to our nation's economic and national security.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on the Budget Control Act, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote