

Calls for a bipartisan, balanced approach to solving the problem

St. Charles, MN – Today, Rep. Walz visited St. Charles High School to discuss why students should understand the impact an exploding debt will have on their generation and what can be done to address the problem.

“A skyrocketing debt will have a real impact on your future and we have to work together get it under control,” said Walz speaking to students. “The only way we will ever find solutions to this difficult challenge is to put partisanship aside, take a balanced approach and engage all Americans, especially young people, to make the hard, necessary choices.”

“Congressman Walz’s visit to St. Charles High School is wonderful,” said Kris Bertelsen, a teacher at St. Charles. “For students to hear from a policymaker in the current economic and political climate is when their education truly comes to life.”

“I am excited that Congressman Walz would take the time to come talk to students,” said Jason Troendle, a student at St. Charles High School. “Hearing about the current situation of our government from someone who sees the situation will give us a different perspective.”

“When I think about my own kids and the students just like you I taught at Mankato West, I am reminded that we cannot just kick the can down the road and leave the problem for them to solve,” said Walz.

Walz has a long record of fiscal discipline. He strongly supported the creation of the bipartisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. This commission will be a bipartisan panel of experts who will put all the data and facts on the table and make recommendations to Congress on addressing our budget deficit in the short term and reducing our debt in the long term. Walz also pushed Speaker Pelosi to commit to an up or down vote on those recommendations and she has done so.

He has been a staunch supporting of pay-as-you-go legislation, which requires Congress to pay for what they spend. This means if Congress wants to spend a dollar, they have to go find that dollar by cutting something else in the federal budget. This legislation passed the House and Senate and was signed into law by the President last month. Similar pay-as-you-go legislation played a critical role in balancing the budget in the 1990’s. That legislation was allowed to expire in 2002 and helped lead to the current budget deficit we are facing. The pay-as-you-go legislation that was recently signed into law is an important first step in restoring fiscal responsibility.