

Congressman Brett Guthrie yesterday issued a statement after voting against the Senate's measure to avert the fiscal cliff:

"After months of discussing how to prevent our country from falling off the fiscal

cliff, we reached a deal that was not balanced in its approach. I have said from the

very beginning that ensuring we do not go over the fiscal cliff should be a

combination of tax reform coupled with spending cuts that are vital to the health of

our nation.

"Leadership in both the House and Senate worked tirelessly to come up with an

agreement to ensure taxes do not go up for millions of Americans. While I support

that goal, it was ultimately not enough. For too long, House Republicans were told

they would see a good-faith discussion on spending cuts. Yet again, we have been

told no, that spending cuts will come next time.

"As I travel across the Second District, my constituents continue to ask when

Congress will cut spending. My fellow Kentuckians understand that the real fiscal

cliff is the one our children will fall off of - in five years when they will be \$22

trillion in debt.

"Throughout the economic recession, families and business owners across America have

had to tighten their belts and make sacrifices. Our government needs to do the same.

This measure, however, does not make a serious effort in making lasting fiscal

reforms and therefore I cannot support it."