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LARSON: FINANCIAL INQUIRY PANEL WILL FIND THE ANSWERS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR

Washington, DC -- Congressman John B. Larson *(CT-01)*, Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, released the following statement in anticipation of the first public meeting of the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. Congressman Larson led the call for the creation of this panel beginning in September of 2008.

"As Congress moves ahead with legislation to reform the financial sector, create jobs and rebuild our economy, it is equally important that we look back to see where things went wrong. The American people are demanding a new culture on Wall Street. Today, the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission begins a process that I and the American people have been demanding for over a year now. We will finally start to get answers about what led to the collapse of our financial system and our economy. This commission will help shed light on the old practices that put the savings and investments of the American people at risk in order to bring about new, more transparent and honest behaviors.

"I have the utmost faith in Phil Angelides, Congressman Bill Thomas and the rest of the Commissioners to demystify the workings and change the culture of Wall Street much like Ferdinand Pecora did in the 1930s."

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