*Washington* - Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) released the following statement on the Republican debt bill that was passed by the House with no Democratic support, and was rejected by the Senate tonight:

"At a time when the nation is crying out to Congress to create jobs and to maintain our economic security an ideological and manufactured crisis is unfolding before us. "Instead of passing the legislation necessary to ensure the nation can pay its bills, as we did eighteen times for Ronald Reagan, and seven times for George W. Bush, Republicans have taken our economy hostage, demanding that we end Medicare and slash services for working families, while protecting billions in tax giveaways for oil companies and Wall Street. And now, with the economy teetering on the brink, they continue to waste time with partisan theater.

"Maybe now that the Senate has voted we can move forward with a bipartisan plan to prevent a default and then focus on the issue that matters most to working families - jobs."

###