

*Transcript of Press Availability After House Democratic Caucus Meeting*

**WASHINGTON**  
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**Rep. Larson**

: Good morning. Is every

Well I thank you, and we had yet another Caucus, where we were fortunate that Gene Sperling from the

Democrats would like to underscore the need for infrastructure. In the Northeast we are still reeling from

We also agree and emphasize this again, as did Gene Sperling. Everyone and we mean everyone should

And further we discussed again, the long term effects of our deficit. Which are directly tied to healthcare

Most recently, Mark Bertolini of the AETNA came out and said very clearly, not only if we drop those costs

We remain optimistic because of the way that the President has gone out there and is selling this concept

Now, tomorrow we will have another Caucus meeting and an election and it will be my high honor at that

**Rep. Becerra:**

Mr. Chairman thank you

I want to reiterate what our Chairman just said. We had a great, it was a great meeting. Folks are back at

But we had a group of members, including some of our new members, who were very excited and very

So, just a couple of points. Before I make those two points. A bit of context. Four years ago where were

And so this is not the time to put your foot on the break of economic recovery and we would hope that our

It seems a little disorienting and a little disconcerting, to hear that there may be some people in this Congress

And finally, I think it goes without saying. Once again the American people are way ahead of the politicians

So Mr. Chairman, I think whether it's our current Chairman John Larson or our future Chairman of the D

**Rep. Larson:**

Thank you. Questions?

**Q: Congressman, if the Republicans are willing to step up and raise revenue will House Democrats**

**Rep. Larson:**

Well, let me say that, cle

But where the President has been very clear in terms of the impact on beneficiaries and beneficiaries ar

With regard to the so called entitlements. Look I come from Hartford, Connecticut. This is a matter of ins

Now, there are though, actuarial assumptions that you can make, life span, various of elements, etc, we

I do not believe that Republicans want to see their beneficiaries; their recipients stand there in their com

**Rep. Becerra:**

Could I just add, let me j

On Medicare, if you all just take a close look at the record, in fact a lot of Democrats lost their seats beca

In the sequester—Medicare is in the sequester and there will be savings from Medicare in the sequester

***Q: Did Mr. Sperling make any commitments not to raise the eligibility age for Medicare?***

**Rep. Larson:**

We did not get into spec

***Q: One of the Caucus Members tweeted that he went into a discussion about why some of the R***

**Rep. Becerra:**

I think—Mr. Chairman, it

***Q: What specifically and concretely would you guys cut?***

**Rep. Becerra:**

Are you asking for savin

*Q: I guess cuts. Are you guys willing to cut any entitlement programs, put any of that on the table?*

**Rep. Becerra:**

Those have been on the

*Q: Is there anything specifically, though, that you guys, I guess, agreed to?*

**Rep. Larson:**

Yeah, no, no. I think wh

And then also the services that are provided for people who receive Medicare and Medicaid. I just lost m

And here's our message: Obamacare is really Romneycare, adopted on the model of Massachusetts. It'

***Q: At the beginning of this press conference you talked about how optimistic you are heading out***

**Rep. Larson:**

Well, yes, I think that—if

**Rep. Becerra:**

Can I just add real quick

Thank you.

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