

## Michaud Statement on President Obama's Address

Tuesday, February 24 2009

WASHINGTON, DC &ndash; Today, Congressman Mike Michaud issued the following statement in response to President Barack Obama's address to a joint session of Congress. "Over the last few days, the President has reminded us of the very serious challenges we face. Both our fiscal crisis and our economic crisis are interrelated. We cannot move forward with one without addressing the other.

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"I strongly support the President's steadfast support of our nation's veterans. I also look forward to working with him on the promotion of domestic technology and innovation and his commitment to ending tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas.

"I appreciate the President's willingness to take action and to be open and honest with the American people. I support his goals of fixing health care, focusing on energy, and modernizing our education system. All of these areas play a major role in our economy. The health of each is crucial to our ability to create jobs and put Americans back to work.

"But they are lofty goals that will require tough budget choices. This is where the past administration failed. The true costs of programs were hidden through gimmicks. Priorities were never paid for &ndash; instead they were put on the nation's credit card and financed by borrowing from foreign countries. These unsustainable actions have helped to create the fiscal crisis we find ourselves in today.

"I met with the President two weeks ago at the White House and I was pleased to hear that he is committed to returning our country to fiscal responsibility. Tonight, he reiterated those commitments. As with everything, actions speak louder than words. We'll see later this week if the President's budget lives up to his commitments.

"So far, actions taken by this administration and the Congress have not been perfect. We certainly won't agree on everything moving forward. But I am confident that we will be able to do what's best for our country in this time of crisis. It will take all of us, regardless of party, to move our country forward."

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