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Rod Blum Blum Says House Republicans Should Just Say 'No' to Obama

While most people were taking down the Christmas tree and getting ready for the New Year, President Obama announced that he intends to ask Congress to raise the debt ceiling again. Dubuque businessman Rod Blum today urged House Republicans in Congress to tell President Obama the same thing his parents told him.

“As I travel around northeast Iowa, I tell people when I was young and I asked my parents for something they just couldn't afford, the answer was 'No.' said Blum, who is running for the Republican nomination to Congress from Iowa's new First District. “If my parents, with their 10th grade educations knew they couldn't spend more than they made, we must make Washington understand this simple economic principle”

Last August, President Obama and Congress battled over his request to raise the debt ceiling. At the last minute, Congress agreed to raise the \$14.29 trillion debt ceiling in three steps. Congress voted to raise the debt limit by \$400 billion in August and by another \$500 billion in September. This latest request by President Obama is the third step and is “supposedly” the last debt ceiling increase necessary until 2013 – after the next election.

“People are sick tired of this crisis du jour we continually see from Washington,” Blum said. “Yes, this latest request is part of the August agreement, but that doesn't mean Congress has to agree.”

Since Congress won't return to Washington until mid-January, Congressional leaders have asked President Obama to delay his request so Congress will be in session during the 15 days allowed for objections. Obama's request to increase the nation's borrowing authority would boost the debt limit to a record \$16.4 trillion. Both the House and Senate would have vote to block this debt ceiling increase.

“I hope House Republicans stand firm, and repeat their objections to raising the debt ceiling again,” Blum said. “Even though the Democrat Senate won't agree, the House must send a strong message to voters that they have heard the voice of the Tea Party, and everyone who knows Washington has a spending problem that must be addressed.”