

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Joe Courtney today released the following statement after voting "no" on House Speaker John Boehner's short-term, three-step plan to raise the debt ceiling.

"When Speaker Boehner was asked yesterday whether his bill would prevent downgrade of U.S. creditworthiness, he responded: 'That is beyond my control.'

"That is not good enough. If the proposed solution cannot prevent downgrade and default, it is no solution at all.

"The Speaker's flippant statement tells us all we need to know about this legislation. It is a short-term patch that provides no certainty to the American people or to financial markets. Plus, it sets the stage for a repeat of this divisive, unnecessary debate just a few months from now with a grotesque requirement that Congress deface the Constitution with an amendment that would cripple the country's ability to meet the challenges it faces.

"Contrary to what the Speaker says, preventing downgrade and default are not beyond our control. As I have for the past six months, I will continue to work for a long-term, balanced solution that will end this default crisis, protect our economy, and allow us to focus on the most important challenge we face today: creating jobs."