

Written by

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**Washington D.C. - Congressman Keith Ellison (MN-05) issued the following statement upon being sworn in for a 3rd term to represent Minnesota's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives:**

I am honored and grateful to be given the opportunity to represent Minnesota's Fifth District in the U.S. House of Representatives. While I am proud of the many accomplishments of the 111th Congress, much work remains to be done. We must continue the progress we have made toward putting our citizens back to work. We must continue to invest in America and rebuild our infrastructure. We must stem the tide of foreclosures that threaten to push more working families from their homes. This agenda will require serious effort and I stand ready to work with all of my colleagues to create jobs, boost opportunities for working families, and invest in America for long term prosperity.

Sadly, in the first days of this new Congress, the Republican majority is swiftly advancing an agenda that is harmful to the future well being of the American people. With millions of Americans desperately looking for work, the first act of the Republican majority will be an attempt to strip away rights and protections for millions of Americans afforded under the new health care law and to explode our national deficit by one trillion dollars over the next two decades by repealing it.

Taking away the rights of hard working Americans doesn't create jobs. Putting insurance companies between patients and doctors doesn't make our nation healthier. Putting the American people, not corporate special interests, first is what drives our economy and makes America strong. I will continue to work to address the very serious issues facing the American people while I serve Minnesotans in Congress.