

## Rybak, U.S. Mayors request middle-class tax fairness

Written by

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Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak will join a series of meetings at the White House and on Capitol Hill today with Vice President Joe Biden, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and other congressional leaders to urge Congress to adopt a bipartisan, balanced approach to deficit reduction that avoids harmful sequestration cuts, promotes economic growth in America's metropolitan areas and preserves middle-class tax cuts.

Mayor Rybak will be joined by a dozen other mayors from across the country as part of a delegation of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. They will also meet with House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer and Senator Mark Begich, chair of the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee.

"Last week, a clear majority of Americans voted for a balanced approach to long-term deficit reduction that includes sensible cuts and additional revenue that is fairly raised from those who can afford to pay a little more, while protecting the middle class and promoting economic growth for everyone," said Mayor Rybak. "That's exactly the approach that mayors are urging Congress to adopt."

"And make no mistake: mayors know that the scheduled sequestration cuts will mean a middle-class tax increase. By blindly and harmfully cutting services for children, jobs and those who need a hand up, Congress will create more problems for mayors to solve down the road — which means higher property taxes on the middle class," Mayor Rybak continued.

The delegation of mayors that are meeting with Vice President Biden and congressional leaders

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today includes Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Charleston Mayor Joseph Riley, Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown and Madison Mayor Paul Soglin, among others.

Last month, Mayor Rybak joined 162 other U.S. mayors in signing a [letter to congressional leaders](#) that urged Congress to adopt a bipartisan and balanced approach to deficit reduction that includes both spending cuts and additional revenue, including from tax reform.