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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

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December 13, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner  
The Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

As you continue in your negotiations with the White House to avoid the impending fiscal cliff our Nation is facing I encourage you to work with President Obama to prevent the enactment of the onerous medical device tax scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2013.

The United States is a global leader in medical technology and medical device development, employing more than 400,000 individuals and accounting for more than \$100 billion in economic activity annually. New Jersey alone is home to more than 60,000 medical technology-related jobs — the sixth highest employment in the Nation.

And millions of lives have been improved and saved through the development of medical technology and breakthrough treatments.

Yet in less than three weeks America's medical device innovators and manufacturers will face a more than \$30 billion tax hike that will stifle innovation, damage job creation and economic growth, increase health care costs and ultimately endanger lives.

The U.S. House, under your leadership, has already taken decisive action on this issue passing legislation to repeal the medical device tax on June 7 by a decisive vote of 270 to 146. Yet despite strong bipartisan and bicameral support this measure has languished in the U.S. Senate.

During this time of high unemployment and continuing economic difficulty, Congress must do everything in its power to assist job-creators like the medical device industry, not stifle them with higher taxes. We must work together to protect patients and lower health care costs by improving, not delaying access to medical technologies.

It is for these reasons I respectfully urge you to work with President Obama to prevent enactment of the medical device tax and bring much-needed certainty to the industry, the patients whose lives are improved by these technologies and the economy as a whole. Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,  
Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress