

**May 1, 2017**

**JERRY AND PENNY SCRIBNER  
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Neenah, WI 54956**

Honorable Congressman Glenn Grothman  
1020 S. Main Street Suite B  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Dear Congressman Grothman,

First, we want to thank you for coming to Neenah last night. Although many in the audience did not agree with your answers, including us, we felt you were interested in listening to your constituents and that your responses were sincere efforts to explain the reasons for your positions.

Your most persuasive points were that the rising deficit and rising medical costs are threatening the future fiscal soundness of the nation. Unfortunately, it appears that you have no realistic plans to address either one.

With respect to the deficit please find enclosed an article by Steve Rattner in which he traces the impact on the deficit of each of the previous tax cuts beginning with President Reagan's. They all increased the deficit. Improvements could be made in our tax system as Rattner points out. But those being proposed by both the President and Congress would make the deficit far worse than it is now. Voters are especially angry about the current favored treatment of the wealthy. The wealthy don't need more tax breaks and the budget can't be balanced with inflation and military spending driving expenses up and tax cuts pushing revenue down.

With respect to medical costs, you have spoken of the outrageous behavior of the Epi-Pen manufacturers and other pharmaceutical companies. But you have done nothing to curb these abuses. Price competition may have had a modest impact on luxury medical care like cosmetic surgery. But it simply doesn't work in the medical field as experience has proven over and over. With essential public needs like utilities and transportation, providers charge what the traffic will bear unless government steps in and creates some reasonable limits. Ultimately, we will all recognize that health care is a basic human need. We will have to find a way to pay for it and a way to control the costs providers are allowed to charge.

We hope you will give more thought to these issues as you serve on the budget committee and vote in Congress on legislation.

Sincerely,

Jerry and Penny Scribner