



Seals Critical of Republican Budget, Opposes Debt Limit Increase and Cuts to Education

WILMETTE, Ill. – Late last night, Republicans in Congress voted to pass a \$2.8 trillion budget that once again raised our federal debt limit and cut critical domestic programs. Not one Democrat voted for the budget, which passed by an eight vote margin. Seals’ opponent Mark Kirk, who is Assistant Majority Whip, chose to side with the majority of his party and support this reckless budget that included \$2.2 billion in cuts to education, as well as significantly increased health care costs for veterans.

“As a father of three young girls, I am deeply concerned about budget priorities that increase debt exponentially for the next generation and, at the same time, make deep cuts in education. It is the responsibility of leadership to look out for our children’s future, and this budget fails in that duty,” Seals said.

This budget cuts spending for veterans’ health programs by \$6 billion over the next five years and as much as triples healthcare fees for retired military personnel. “We are failing our veterans. I oppose these increases – we should honor our commitment to those who have served our country. They deserve stable and affordable health care they can depend on,” Seals said.

For the fifth time since Bush took office, Republicans have voted to increase our debt limit – this time to \$9.6 trillion. “For me as a businessman, this is a clear indicator of the incompetence of our leadership. If a CEO and Board of Directors of any corporation presided over year after year of ballooning deficits, they would be fired by their shareholders,” Seals said. “We must return to fiscal responsibility. We can do better, and we should do better,” he concluded.

Kirk’s Real Record

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Quarterly, Congressman Mark Kirk votes with the Republican party 90% of the time. Kirk holds the Republican leadership position of Assistant Majority Whip, which gives him the responsibility of enforcing party discipline and lining up members on critical party votes.

About Dan Seals

Seals lives in Wilmette with his wife, Mia, and three young daughters. Born in Chicago, he received a master’s in public policy from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and served as a Presidential Management Fellow during the Clinton Administration in both the Department of Commerce and Sen. Joseph Lieberman’s office. Seals went on to earn his MBA from the University of Chicago. He is currently on leave from his position as Director of Marketing at GE Commercial Finance while he campaigns full time.