Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 1, 2012

The Honorable Eric Cantor
House Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-329, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Cantor:

As members of the Blue Dog Coalition, we write to urge you to bring H.R. 1148, the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act, or STOCK Act, to the House floor for a vote.

The American public was outraged when the CBS News program "60 Minutes" reported that some members of Congress may have bought stock in companies based on information they gained from their position of power that was not known to the general public.

Members of Congress, their staff, and other federal employees who use special, nonpublic information to make a profit are in complete violation of the public's trust. This type of insider trading is unacceptable, and it should be illegal.

As Members of Congress we are in the business of public service, not personal profit. We are called to do what is right and to serve the American people. When a few betray that trust, the entire country suffers. Congress must now work to restore the American people's faith in our government. Swift passage of this bipartisan STOCK Act is one way we, as an institution, can confirm our commitment to our constituents and our country.

This week, the United States Senate voted 93 to 2 to move forward with debate on a companion version of the bill. In his State of the Union Address, President Obama called on Congress to pass a bill that bans insider trading by members of Congress. It is past time for the House of Representatives to begin action.

We urge you to bring the STOCK Act to the floor without delay.

Sincerely,

Rep. Heath Shuler
Co-Chair, Administration

Rep. John Barrow
Co-Chair, Policy

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Rep. Mike Ross
Co-Chair, Communications

Rep. Dan Boren
Co-Chair, Whip

Rep. Dennis Cardoza

Rep. Jim Matheson

cc. The Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives