

# A Fight the GOP Cannot Win

✘ By Peter Wehner, Commentary

According to Senator Jim DeMint, even if a balanced-budget amendment were attached to a vote to raise the debt limit, he'd vote against it – and he encourages freshmen Republicans not to vote for raising the debt limit either. His argument is that since he/they didn't create the debt problem to begin with, they shouldn't be the people who vote to raise the ceiling. DeMint goes on to say that it's important for the GOP to show its “strong commitment to cut spending and debt.”

I think it makes great sense to use the vote on the debt ceiling to try to extract some substantial cuts in federal spending. But what Senator DeMint is arguing for is something else. He believes that Republicans should oppose raising the debt limit *regardless* of the concessions they might win.

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