

**Congressman Peter Welch
United States House of Representatives**

Media Advisory

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**Vermont Business Roundtable to host Fiscal Wakeup Tour with Robert
Bixby and Peter Welch**

Burlington, Vt. – Concord Coalition executive director Robert L. Bixby will sound “A Wake-Up to America’s Fiscal Future” during a Dec. 18 presentation and panel discussion with Rep. Peter Welch and Vermont business leaders at the Hilton Burlington Hotel. “In this era of economic instability, there is no better time than now to engage Vermont’s business community with an expert in fiscal responsibility,” Welch said. “The Concord Coalition brings a non-partisan view of the nation’s financial health to Washington at a critical time in our nation’s history.”

The event, sponsored by the Vermont Business Roundtable, is the result of an April meeting of Welch’s Business Advisory Council focusing on the need for fiscal responsibility in government. Congressman Welch worked with the Roundtable to invite Bixby to Vermont and to host a forum for the greater Vermont business community. After an introduction by Welch, Bixby will speak to a luncheon group comprised of business leaders from several statewide and regional trade associations. Following his remarks, Bixby will participate in a panel which includes Green Mountain Power Chief Executive Officer Mary Powell, Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors member David Coates, and Sen. Susan Bartlett, D-Lamoille, chair of the Vermont Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Concord Coalition was founded in 1992 by former U.S. Senators Warren Rudman (R-N.H.) and the late Paul Tsongas (D-Mass.). Former Senator Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.) now serves as co-chair of the organization.

Bixby was named executive director of the Coalition in 1999, after serving as the organization's policy director, national field director, and in other capacities since 1992. He frequently represents Concord's views on budget and entitlement reform policy at congressional hearings and in the national media. Prior to his work with the Coalition, he practiced law and served as the chief staff attorney of the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

The luncheon is open to the public, but advanced ticket reservations are required at the cost of \$25. To order tickets, contact Beth Volker at the Vermont Business Roundtable, 865-0410.

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