

January 2, 2013

For immediate release

Contact:

Bobbie Brinegar cell 202.329.3607

bbrinegar@owl-national.org

Pat Lewis cell 703.201.5070

plewis@owl-national.org

Fiscal Cliff Agreement Only a Down-Payment; Nation Deserves Balanced, Thoughtful Approach

Washington, D.C. -- OWL congratulates the administration and congressional leadership on making the tough decisions needed to avert the fiscal cliff. As a direct result of their actions, millions of Americans' taxes will not go up; Medicare payments to physicians will not be slashed; there will be no reduction in Social Security benefits.

But the fiscal cliff debacle also demonstrates how tempting it can be to look for short-term "fixes" instead of engaging in meaningful policymaking.

"Any discussion around the adequacy of a program as critical to millions of people as Social Security is should only be done within the context of the normal order of business, not the harried, last-minute deal-making that characterized this agreement," said OWL Executive Director Bobbie Brinegar. "The outcry from coast to coast when the chained CPI issue was raised makes it clear that retirement security is an issue of paramount importance to the nation. We deserve to have it treated that way."

OWL is the only national nonprofit that focuses solely on issues that impact the nation's 74 million midlife and older women. Founded in 1980 as the Older Women's League, it uses education, research and advocacy to improve women's economic security and quality of life.

Follow @OWLNational on Twitter | 'Like' us on Facebook.com/OWLNational

