

The Republican Party platform of 1868 declared any repudiation of the public debt to be "a national crime." And so the 14th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified providing that "the validity of the public debt of the United States . . . shall not be questioned."

If Congress does not want to incur any more debt, they can stop passing bills authorizing more expenditures. But to refuse to raise some artificial overall "debt ceiling" to honor those debts is no different from running up a bill on your credit card and then refusing to pay it off.

For Republican members of Congress to even QUESTION this is a national crime in progress. It does more damage to the credit of the United States than any violent terrorist, and will lead directly to a dramatic increase in our cost to borrow money from the rest of the world, making our deficit problem, much of which is interest on existing debt, that much worse.

One of the things that Congress has done in the last 10 years is pass multiple laws that are so vague and ambiguous that ANY citizen of the United States can be arrested as a terrorist and be held indefinitely without trial for doing anything that might possibly "aid" the "enemy" in the slightest or tangential way.

We, the people of the United States, therefore call on the Department of Justice to immediately issue arrest warrants for any members of Congress who even QUESTION whether or not we will honor our public debt obligations.