

Congressman Charlie Gonzalez issued the following statement regarding President Obama's job speech delivered before a joint session of Congress:

"Upon listening to the president's address tonight, I am hopeful that we are getting the economy back on track. We must invest in the American people and ensure our economic progress which requires that we share the responsibilities so that we may share the resulting benefits.

"But these necessary steps cannot come to be if the spirit of partisanship and dearth of cooperation persists in Washington. For the sake of the [8.4% of unemployed Texans](#) and [9.1% of jobless Americans](#),

I urge my colleagues in Congress to listen and engage one another so that these important decisions can be made. Now is not a time to recount a laundry list of ideological disagreements. Now is time to come up with effective solutions. Now is a time to invest in the American people and rebuild the economy. We cannot repeat the debt ceiling debacle. Cooperation is our only way out."