More than 11,000 Vermonters tuned in to Rep. Peter Welch's Deficit Reduction Telephone Town Hall meeting Tuesday night.

Welch was joined for the lively discussion by former U.S. Comptroller General David Walker, who led the Government Accountability Office from 1998 to 2008. The two discussed the recommendations of the Bipartisan Fiscal Commission, answered Vermonters' questions and listened to Vermonters' ideas about how to reduce the deficit.

Nearly 2,440 Vermonters took part in the call for more than five minutes, while more than 1,247 stayed on for more than twenty minutes. 401 Vermonters got in line to ask questions, and Welch and Walker were able to take fifteen of them.

Welch will continue to solicit ideas and opinions about how to reduce the deficit on a new web page: www.welch.house.gov/deficitreduction . Welch will publish Vermonters' ideas as they are submitted.