

# American Bridge 21st Century: Blocking debt limit increase, U.S. Sen. Johnson risks economic catastrophe

Posted on Wednesday, Sep 29, 2021

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**A new [American Bridge 21st Century video](#) highlights Wisconsin U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson's [vote this week](#) to block Democratic efforts to raise the debt limit — effectively pushing the country towards an economic catastrophe in the middle of an economic recovery and an ongoing global pandemic.**

For months, Johnson [has led efforts](#) to organize Republican opposition to raising the debt limit to pay for previous federal spending (that mostly happened under Trump). And Johnson was yesterday [at the forefront](#) of Republican opposition to letting Democrats raise the debt ceiling by simple majority — previewing [Mitch McConnell's obstruction](#) of that effort.

Practically speaking, Johnson's political games are ensuring that the American economy accelerates toward a default, which [experts have warned](#) would result in millions of lost jobs and trillions in lost household wealth, while compromising the government's ability to make good on Social Security, Medicare, and veterans benefits.

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