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At financial responsibility summit, McCotter advocates aid for GM, Chrysler

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WASHINGTON – As part of the Fiscal Responsibility Summit convened by President Obama, U.S. Rep. Thad McCotter found himself in a group with Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner today and didn't shy away from mentioning the needs of automakers Chrysler LLC and General Motors.

"You got to strike while the iron's hot," said McCotter, a Livonia Republican.

Of course, he didn't get any kind of commitment from Geithner or President Obama – who he talked to after the summit – on the \$21.6 billion in additional funding the automakers are looking to get to survive. But, he said, "They both understand the critical importance" of the industry's viability.

McCotter was one of two members of Michigan's congressional delegation invited to the summit, the other being Midland Republican Dave Camp. McCotter says that the summit was "a first step" toward reaching bipartisan solutions on health care, Social Security, the tax code and other fiscal issues facing the nation.