

Monday, February 13, 2012

RSC Update: Obama Busts Liberals' Favorite Myth (and the Budget)

From the Chairman

Shortly after taking office, President Obama promised to cut the deficit in half by the end of his four year-term. Considering how much his stimulus plan and other spending increases ballooned the starting deficit, it seemed an easy promise to keep.

Well, he just broke that promise beyond all recognition. Barack Obama isn't just the only president ever to oversee a \$1 trillion deficit. The budget he proposed today has him running the deficit over \$1 trillion for the fourth straight year!

In addition to busting the budget, he accidentally busts one of the Left's favorite myths – the notion that huge tax increases on wealthy Americans will put an end to deficits. Even with the massive tax hikes liberals have sought for years (and an \$850 billion gimmick of "saving" money that was never going to be spent), President Obama's budget never balances. Never.

In reality, paying for all the spending President Obama demands would mean a huge tax increase on middle class families. That's a clear recipe for fewer jobs and a more bloated government. It's why conservatives want to cut, cap, and balance the budget. It's one of the reasons we must repeal ObamaCare. And it shows the undeniable need for our [Jobs Through Growth Act](#).

This country has a choice to make. We can choose the Obama road to debt, doubt, and decline, or we can choose the conservative path of less spending, more jobs, and better opportunities for everyone.

God Bless,

Congressman Jim Jordan
Chairman, Republican Study Committee

RSC Media Activity – RSC members work hard to ensure that the conservative viewpoint is well-represented in all corners of the media. Visit our [Media Center](#) for more.

- Rep. Steve King (IA-05): [No Force More Powerful Than English](#); The Hill, February 6.
- Rep. Reid Ribble (WI-08): [Coming Together to Get out of Debt](#); The Hill, February 6.
- Rep. Paul Gosar (AZ-01): [Public Needs Truth in Operation Fast and Furious](#); The Arizona Republic, February 6.

- Rep. Renee Ellmers (NC-02): [A Price to be Paid with Over-Regulation](#); The Hill, February 6.
- Rep. Allen West (FL-22): [The Danger of A Nation of Dependents](#); The Foundry, February 8.
- Rep. Scott Garrett (NJ-05): [Debt Crisis a Great Deal Worse Than Washington Will Admit](#); The Washington Examiner, February 8.
- Rep. Pete Olson (TX-22): [We Need a Domestic Energy Solution to Reduce Dependence on Foreign Oil](#); The Hill, February 8.
- Rep. Kevin Brady (TX-08): [New Unemployment Numbers Do Not Tell the Whole Story](#); The Hill, February 8.
- Rep. Tom Cole (OK-04): [Entitlement Reform: Now Is the Time](#); The Hill, February 9.
- Rep. Phil Gingrey (GA-11): [Keystone Versus Solyndra](#); The Washington Times, February 9.
- Rep. Jeff Miller (FL-01): [Sequestration and VA - Our Veterans Deserve an Answer](#); The Hill, February 10.
- Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (TN-03): [Energy and Infrastructure Act: Competitive and Fiscally Responsible](#); The Hill, February 10.
- Rep. Mike Kelly (PA-03): [Notre Dame's Teachable Moment](#); National Review Online, February 10.

RSC Member Activity – RSC members make it a priority to introduce productive, conservative solutions for America's future.

- RSC Chairman Rep. Jim Jordan (OH-04) [spoke at CPAC](#) and encouraged conservatives to fight for what's right, especially when it looks like the odds are stacked against us.
- Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer introduced [H.R. 3982](#), the Religious Liberty Protection Act, which would prohibit the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from forcing employers with religious objections to provide coverage of sterilization or contraceptive services.
- Rep. Sandy Adams (FL-24) introduced legislation to safeguard employees' privacy, [H.R. 3991](#), the Keeping Employees' Emails and Phones (KEEP) Secure Act. It protects employees from the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) overreach.
- Rep. Steve Scalise (LA-01) [led a bipartisan letter](#) with 154 co-signers calling on the Obama Administration to reverse its unconstitutional mandate forcing religious organizations to include abortion-inducing drugs, contraceptives, and sterilizations in the health care plans of their employees.
- Rep. Reid Ribble (WI-08) introduced [H.J. Res. 101](#), a Constitutional Amendment that would limit House members to three terms of four years and Senators to two terms of six years, equaling 12 years for both chambers.

- Rep. Bill Flores (TX-17) [spoke on CNN](#) to explain how President Obama's policies have not only failed us for the past three years but continue to hold back our future economic recovery and job creation.
- Rep. Todd Akin (MO-02) led [a letter](#) with 16 other Congressman raising concerns about reported delays in the medical evacuation system in Afghanistan.

House Floor Activity – The following key legislation came through the House of Representatives recently.

- On February 7, the House approved [H.R. 1734](#), the *Civilian Property Realignment Act*. The bill creates an independent commission, similar to the BRAC process, to identify ways for the federal government to reduce its inventory of civilian real property and reduce its costs.
- On February 7, the House approved [H.R. 3581](#), the *Budget and Accounting Transparency Act*. Among other things, the bill will require federal credit programs to be accounted for on a fair value accounting basis. This means that federal accounting would have to consider not just the borrowing costs to the federal government, but also the cost of the market risk the federal government is incurring.
- On February 8, the House approved [H.R. 3521](#), the *Expedited Line-Item Veto and Rescissions Act*. The legislation allows the President, within 45 days of enactment of a discretionary spending bill, to propose spending cuts that are guaranteed an expedited vote in both the House and Senate.
- On February 9, the House approved an amendment to [S. 2038](#), the *STOCK Act*. The legislation makes clear that members of Congress and their employees are prohibited from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit. The House version strengthens the Senate bill and expands it to apply the same rules to the Executive Branch.

Outlook – A quick look at what's on the horizon.

- President Obama unveils his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2013 today.
- The House is scheduled to debate H.R. 7, the *American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act of 2012*, from Wednesday through Friday.
- It's possible the House will consider legislation relating to the payroll tax, unemployment payments, and doctor reimbursements from Medicare at some point this week.

RSC Reports

- Each week the House is in session, the RSC Budget and Spending Taskforce compiles a [weekly report](#) on the latest budget and spending news. Additionally, the [RSC Money Monitor](#) tracks how bills passed by the House affect authorizations, mandatory spending, and federal government revenue.
- RSC Staff compiled a Policy Brief detailing [concerns with the Ex-Im Bank](#).

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