

RSC Policy Brief:
Fiscal Reform Bills Authored by RSC Members in the 111th Congress
August 24, 2010

Context: This year marks the first time since the modern budget process began that the House did not vote on a budget resolution. This failure of duty comes as the country is experiencing severe fiscal challenges. The following are some examples of the country's fiscal deterioration since January 2007:

- **The National Debt:** has increased from \$8.67 trillion to \$13.38 trillion—an increase of \$4.71 trillion or 54.3%.
- **The Debt Limit:** has increased *six times*, increasing from \$8.965 trillion to \$14.294 trillion—an increase of \$5.33 trillion or 59.4%.
- **The Deficit:** has increased from \$161 billion in the last budget before Democrats took control of the Congress (FY 2007) to \$1.42 trillion in the most recent fiscal year (FY 2009)—an increase of \$1.26 trillion or 776%.
- **\$10.5 Trillion Deterioration to Nation's Budget Outlook:** In just over three years of Democrat control of the Congress, an \$800 billion ten-year projected surplus has turned into a projected deficit over this period of more than \$9.7 trillion—a \$10.5 trillion worsening of the budget outlook covering just these ten years (or an average of more than \$1 trillion a year).

The purpose of this RSC Policy Brief, which will be updated periodically, is to list fiscal reform bills introduced by RSC Members that address some of the issues noted above. **The RSC encourages staff to send future examples of such legislation to Curtis.Rhyne@mail.house.gov.**

Note: This document is for informational purposes only and may not be exhaustive. The RSC does not necessarily endorse every bill listed here.

Legislative Proposals by RSC Members (listed alphabetically by last name):

Rep. Todd Akin (R-MO) introduced legislation to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ([H.R. 5216](#)). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Todd Akin (R-MO) introduced [H.Res. 1071](#) to amend House Rules to: **1)** repeal the Gephardt rule providing for automatic House passage of a debt limit increase upon House passage of a budget resolution; **2)** require any measure to increase the debt limit to be considered as a stand alone bill; and **3)** require three-fifths approval for passage of any debt limit increase. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Rodney Alexander (R-LA) introduced [H.Res. 687](#) to amend House Rules to increase earmark disclosure requirements for Members requesting an earmark, as well as for committees that accept earmark requests. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) introduced [H.R. 943](#), the Truth in Accounting Act of 2009, which would require Congress to disclose its major fiscal exposures, including unfunded obligations from entitlement spending, in the *Financial Report of the U.S. Government*. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) introduced legislation to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ([H.R. 4903](#)). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) introduced legislation to provide for a temporary freeze on the pay of civilian employees of the Federal Government ([H.R. 5382](#)) for fiscal year 2011 and the first quarter of fiscal year 2012. This would prevent a 1.4% increase in civilian federal pay in 2011, saving taxpayers \$30 billion over ten years. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor. However, House Republicans brought this spending cut option to the floor as the Week 2 YouCut winner. See [here](#) for the House vote on this proposal.

Rep. Gresham Barrett (R-SC) introduced legislation to eliminate automatic pay increases for Members of Congress effective at the beginning of 2011 ([H.R. 751](#)). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Gresham Barrett (R-SC) introduced the [Taxpayer Empowerment and Advocacy Act of 2009](#) (H.R. 1814). The legislation sets limits on discretionary spending in 2010-2014 (providing substantial savings compared to the current budget baseline), and also applies PAYGO to new mandatory spending while preventing tax increases from being used to fund new mandatory spending. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX) introduced [H.R. 4883](#), the STRONG Budget Act of 2010. This legislation would require a sequestration of 2% of the budget for each fiscal year until the federal budget is balanced. This sequestration would not apply to several exempt categories of spending. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced [H.R. 377](#), which would make an across-the-board 2 percent cut to non-defense, non-homeland-security discretionary spending for FY 2009. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced [H.R. 378](#), which would make an across-the-board 1 percent cut to non-defense, non-homeland-security discretionary spending for FY 2009. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced [H.R. 381](#), which would make an across-the-board 5 percent cut to non-defense, non-homeland-security discretionary spending for FY 2009. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced [H.R. 5540](#), which would make an across-the-board 2 percent cut to non-defense, non-homeland-security discretionary spending for FY 2010 and FY 2011. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced [H.R. 5541](#), which would make an across-the-board 1 percent cut to non-defense, non-homeland-security discretionary spending for FY 2010 and FY 2011. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced [H.R. 5542](#), which would make an across-the-board 5 percent cut to non-defense, non-homeland-security discretionary spending for FY 2010 and FY 2011. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) introduced the [Savings for Seniors Act of 2009](#) (H.R. 1712) to dedicate Social Security surpluses to a “Social Security Surplus Protection Account,” in order to prevent surpluses from being used to fund other government programs. The bill also creates a commission composed of nine members to recommend how to invest money deposited in the Social Security Surplus Protection Account. No later than October 1, 2011, the commission would be required to issue recommendations on appropriate investment vehicles for the Social Security Surplus Account, together with proposals for such administrative and legislative changes as the Commission determines necessary to authorize and implement such recommendations. Congress would be free to approve, reject, or not consider the commission’s recommendations. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) introduced the [Federal Sunset Act of 2009](#) (H.R. 393), which would create a Federal Agency Sunset Commission to review government agencies for effectiveness and lead to the elimination of ineffective and wasteful programs. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) introduced the [Spending Reform Act of 2009](#) (H.R. 311), which would require the annual budget resolution to include discretionary spending limits for five successive years, and creates points of order against breaching these limits (absent a Congressional declaration of war). The legislation would also establish a Federal Agency Sunset Commission, a Joint Select Committee on Earmark Reform, and a Securing America's Future Economy Commission. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Paul Broun (R-GA) introduced [H.J.Res. 75](#), proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The constitutional amendment would also limit federal spending growth to inflation plus population, and require a two-thirds vote to enact any tax increase (the two-thirds majority requirement would also apply to the spending limit and balanced budget provisions of the amendment). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Paul Broun (R-GA) introduced [H.R. 5073](#), legislation to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and replace it with the OPTION Act (H.R. 3889). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Paul Broun (R-GA) introduced [H.R. 5421](#), legislation to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The bill would also increase funding for high risk pools, allow purchase of health care across state lines, and allow for the creation of association health plans. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) introduced [H.R. 566](#), legislation to prevent automatic cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for Members of Congress, meant to reflect inflation, when the federal government is running a budget deficit. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) introduced the [Earmark Accountability and Reform Act](#) (H.R. 1390). This legislation would authorize the President to propose the repeal of (with procedures for Congressional consideration of) any congressional earmark, and directs any cancellation to go towards deficit reduction. The bill also makes any earmark that has not previously passed either the House or Senate (airdropped earmarks) out of scope of a conference committee. Finally, the bill requires a two-thirds vote to call up for consideration a rule that either waives the requirement that three calendar days pass between a bill being reported out of committee and being considered on the floor or a rule that waives the requirement that three calendar days pass between a conference report being filed and being considered on the floor. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) introduced [H.J.Res. 43](#), proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States. H.J.Res. 43 includes language exempting outlays for natural disasters as counting toward the balanced budget requirement. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN) introduced the [Stop the Congressional COLA Act](#) (H.R. 395), to prevent cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for Members of Congress, meant to reflect inflation, in 2010. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN) introduced [H.R. 4910](#) to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and enact in its place the RSC's [Empowering Patients First Act](#) (H.R. 3400). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Dave Camp (R-MI) introduced [H.R. 2656](#) to require amounts remaining in Members' representational allowances at the end of a fiscal year to be desposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction/debt reduction. The bill further requires a statement published in the Congressional Record reflecting the amount deposited in the Treasury for each Member. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Campbell (R-CA) introduced the Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is Act of 2009 ([H.R. 87](#)), which allow individuals (who believe that taxes are too low) to make extra, voluntary contributions to the federal government on their income tax returns. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Campbell (R-CA) introduced [H.Res. 17](#), to abolish the House Appropriations Committee. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Campbell (R-CA) introduced [H.Res. 1469](#) to express the sense of the House of Representatives that, before Congress considers any appropriation bill for a particular fiscal year, the House should first pass a budget resolution for that year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) introduced the [Earmark Transparency Act](#) (H.R. 5258). The legislation establishes a public searchable website that would list all earmark requests by Member of Congress. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) introduced [H.Res. 440](#), which amends House rules to require any committee that accepts Member earmark requests to maintain an earmark disclosure webpage that contains for each request information about earmark requests in a downloadable, searchable, and sortable format. The resolution would also require Members of Congress, when requesting an earmark, to disclose certain information (as specified by the resolution) on the Member's website. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced [H.R. 2914](#), to terminate marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments for mohair producers. Federal price support for mohair was first enacted in 1947. The National Wool Act of 1954 established direct payments for wool and mohair producers. The purpose of the program was to encourage production of wool because it was considered an essential and strategic commodity. No similar purpose was stated for the mohair program. In 2008, the farm bill re-authorized marketing assistance loans and loan deficiency payments for wool and mohair producers for crop years 2008 to 2012. Cutting this program would save taxpayers approximately \$1 million per year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced [H.R. 2915](#), prohibiting United States contributions to the International Fund for Ireland. The International Fund for Ireland was established by the Irish and British governments in 1986 to promote peace in Northern Ireland. Historically, 80% of the funding has been appropriated for Northern Ireland and 20% for counties in the Republic of Ireland that border Northern Ireland. The Fund receives contributions from the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the European Union. According to Citizens for Government Waste, U.S. taxpayers have contributed \$280 million to the Fund since 1996. Eliminating this spending would save taxpayers \$17 million per year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced [H.R. 5339](#), the Disposal of Excess Federal Lands Act of 2010. This legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to offer surplus federal lands for competitive sale in the open market. In a 1997 report submitted to Congress by President Bill Clinton's Department of the Interior, the Department identified approximately 3.3 million acres of federal land as suitable for disposal. The federal government already owns an estimated 660 million acres of land, 90% of which is owned in the Western United States. Disposal of these lands would alleviate the burdens state and local governments experience because of this vast federal presence. Further, the Department estimated that by disposing these vacant federal lands, nearly \$1 billion of net revenue could be generated. The bill directs proceeds from the sale to the U.S. Treasury to pay down the public debt. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced [H.R. 5535](#), legislation to establish a pilot program of expedited disposal of unneeded federal property, with resulting savings leading to deficit reduction. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced [H.Res. 1221](#), which makes reforms to the earmark process, including: **1)** eliminating earmarks to for-profit entities; **2)** preventing "air dropped" earmarks as part of a conference report; **3)** requiring legislation containing earmarks to list the federal nexus (or constitutional authority) for the earmark, as well as the previous authorization that supports the earmark; **4)** prohibiting consideration of legislation that includes earmarks requested by a Member of the Appropriations Committee or that were inserted at the behest of the chair of a committee/subcommittee. **5)** Requiring Members to maintain an official database of information on their earmark requests. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) introduced [H.R. 2992](#), prohibiting the use of public funds for political party conventions. Beginning in 1976, taxpayers have subsidized part of the cost of political conventions, with the money derived from the Presidential Election Campaign Fund. In 2008, the Republican and Democrat conventions received a total of \$33.6 million for grants to hold their political conventions (this is in addition to appropriations for security costs). According to CRS, proponents of this funding argue that taxpayer subsidies are a way to “insulate conventions (or other aspects of elections) from undue individual, corporate, or labor influence and from real or apparent corruption stemming from private funds.” However, the host committees for a political convention—even if a political party decides to accept the taxpayer money—may still raise private funds for all sorts of activities at the convention (such as receptions and other entertainment expenses). Consequently, even with taxpayer subsidies, 80% of all spending on political conventions come from private sources. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) introduced [H.R. 2993](#), eliminating taxpayer financing of presidential campaigns. The Presidential Election Campaign Fund provides matching funds to candidates during the presidential primaries, funds for political conventions, and funding for third party candidates (who qualify). *In short, it provides taxpayer subsidies to political candidates.* In return for these taxpayer funds, a presidential candidate must abide by limits on campaign spending. In recent elections, candidates who abide by these limits are put at a severe disadvantage. The spending limits make it harder for candidates with lower name recognition, or non-incumbents, to be competitive. In addition, the Presidential Election Campaign Fund, with the limits attached to participating in it, gives advantages to candidates who can self-finance (and thus easily avoid participating in the program). The program was created in the 1970s in an attempt to reduce the influence of money in campaigns, and to reduce the time required of candidates to raise money. By any analysis, it has failed to accomplish these objectives. Cutting this program would save taxpayers \$260 million over 5 years. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Michael Conaway (R-TX) introduced [H.Res. 343](#) to allow Members to direct that any savings resulting from an amendment to an appropriations bill go to deficit reduction, by causing a reduction to the 302(b) allocation of that particular subcommittee as well as the overall 302(a) allocation. The 302(a) sets the overall discretionary spending total under the budget resolution for a particular year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Michael Conaway (R-TX) introduced [H.Res. 1441](#) to amend House Rules to require that any bill or joint resolution that creates a new federal program must contain a provision that would eliminate one or more current federal programs of equal or greater cost. The Democrat majority have yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced the [Securing Medicare and Retirement for Tomorrow Act](#) (H.R. 107), to direct the 7.65 percent employee portion of the FICA tax to a Personal Social Security Account. An individual could choose from five approved investment options within the Personal Social Security Account. At retirement, a worker would receive an estimate of the

worth of his Personal Social Security Account and could then choose between the account or the traditional Social Security benefit. The bill makes no changes to benefits for current retirees. On Medicare, H.R. 107 allows younger workers to choose between the current system and a system paired with a savings account and a high-deductible health plan. The Democrat majority have yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced [H.R. 1996](#), which prohibits the inclusion of earmarks in the Intelligence Authorization Act for FY 2010. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced [H.R. 2512](#), which creates a point of order against the consideration in the House of Representatives, or the Senate, of measures that appropriate funds for earmarks to private, for-profit entities. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced the [Congressional Oversight and Spending Transparency \(COST\) Act of 2010](#) (H.R. 5151). The legislation prohibits any increase in Member's Representational Allowance for fiscal year 2011 above the level of fiscal year 2009. The legislation also prohibits taxpayer funding for any mail, by a Member of the House of Representatives, for any material other than a document transmitted under the official letterhead used for the Member's stationery. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced [H.R. 5439](#). The legislation requires the Secretary of Agriculture to make reductions in direct payments to cotton producers so that reductions in the amount of direct payments made to producers for upland cotton offset the full cost of any United States contributions to the fund established by the United States and Brazil to provide technical assistance and capacity building, as part of the resolution of the cotton dispute brought by Brazil against the United States in the World Trade Organization. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced the [Debt Buy-Down Act](#) (H.R. 5536). The legislation requires the IRS to include a check-off on tax returns that enables taxpayers to direct up to 10% of their tax liability to debt reduction. The bill establishes a trust fund in which to put those funds pending their use to retire debt obligations. The legislation requires spending reductions for the coming year that ensure that the debt reductions are achieved. If Congress does not achieve the required spending reductions equal to the debt reduction designated by taxpayers than the bill provides for automatic across-the-board spending reductions (with exemptions for some programs including veterans spending and Social Security). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) introduced [H.Res.1101](#), which establishes an earmark moratorium for FY 2011. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Fleming (R-LA) introduced the [Keep Out the IRS Act of 2010](#) (H.R. 5066), which prohibits the hiring of additional employees by the Internal Revenue Service to implement, administer, or enforce the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Fleming (R-LA) introduced the [Stop the Feds Act](#) (H.R. 5425), which allows a state opt out of creating any Exchange mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Randy Forbes (R-VA) introduced the [Tighten Washington's Belt Act](#) (H.R. 4479). This legislation establishes discretionary spending limits for FY 2011-FY 2015. The limits would cause discretionary spending budget authority to decline 10% on an annual basis over this period. The legislation establishes enforcement mechanisms, including sequestration (with certain federal programs exempt), if the cap is breached by Congress. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Randy Forbes (R-VA) introduced the [Congressional Accountability Pay Act](#) (H.R. 4681). The legislation requires a decrease in the rate of pay for each Member by a specified percentage if outlays for any fiscal year are greater than outlays for the preceding fiscal year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Randy Forbes (R-VA) introduced the [Prevent IRS Overreach Act of 2010](#) (H.R. 5054). The legislation prevents any position in the Internal Revenue Service from being filled, if the duties and responsibilities of the position include the enforcement of any provision of, or amendment made by, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) introduced [H.R. 113](#), which provides for Government Accountability Office (GAO) audits of earmarks. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) introduced the [Highway Trust Fund Reform Act](#) (H.R. 687), which repeals the Davis-Bacon Act for federal-aid highway construction projects and public transportation construction projects. The Davis-Bacon Act significantly increases the cost of transportation projects. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) introduced [H.J.Res. 3](#), which would have denied the Treasury Department the ability to spend the final \$350 billion of TARP funding. The resolution passed the House by a vote of [270-155](#) on January 22, 2009, but a similar measure was rejected by the Senate.

Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ) was the lead sponsor of the [Economic Recovery and Middle-Class Tax Relief Act](#) of 2009, the RSC's economic growth plan introduced at the beginning of this Congress as an alternative to the Democrats' "stimulus" bill. This legislation made numerous

changes to the tax code designed to provide tax relief for the middle class and create jobs. These changes include a five percent across-the-board income tax rate reduction, an increase of the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$5,000, repeal of the AMT, and a reduction of the corporate tax rate from 35% to 25%. The RSC plan also included a one-percent reduction to non-defense/veterans FY 2009 discretionary spending. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ) introduced the [Accurate Accounting of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac Act](#) (H.R. 4653). The legislation provides on-budget status for the Federal National Mortgage Association, and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ) and Rep. Patrick Murphy (D-PA) introduced the [Scrap the MAP Act](#) (H.R. 4683), which eliminates the Market Access Program (MAP). This mandatory spending program is authorized in the Farm Bill and administered by the Foreign Services Department of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It uses funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation to promote the overseas marketing of U.S. agricultural products. MAP funds consumer promotions, market research, trade shows, advertising campaigns, and other programs designed to subsidize the sale of high-value products in foreign markets by private cooperatives, trade associations, and businesses. Eliminating this program would save taxpayers \$200 million in FY 2011. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-GA) introduced the [HEALTH Act](#) (H.R. 1086). The HEALTH Act, modeled after California's 30-year-old and highly successful health care litigation reforms, will make health care delivery more accessible and cost-effective in the United States. Under the HEALTH Act's guidelines, a plaintiff may recover punitive damages totaling either \$250,000 or double the amount of economic damages awarded—whichever is greater. The HEALTH Act also lowers health care costs by preventing unfair double recoveries (i.e., a plaintiff being awarded future lost wages both by his insurance company and by a court judgment). This Act limits the number of years a plaintiff has to file a health care liability action to ensure that claims are brought while witnesses are available and memories fresh, and before evidence is destroyed. According to CBO, enacting medical liability reform would *save taxpayers \$54 billion over ten years*. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-GA) introduced the [Federal Employee Accountability Act](#) (H.R. 3251), which ensures that no employee of the federal government can use official time to collectively bargain on behalf of a union against their employer. Recent increases in union activity have led to a less efficient federal workforce. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) conducted an extensive survey of 61 executive agencies and departments for FY 2008 to determine the amount of official time and wages spent on union activity. OPM reported that nearly 3 million official time hours were used for union activities in FY 2008. Further, the report found that in FY 2008 alone, these 61 agencies spent over \$120 million on union activities, an increase from approximately \$113 million in FY 2007. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-GA) introduced the [Earmark Reform Act of 2010](#) (H.R. 4831), to set a cap on total spending on earmarks (\$14.5 billion in the first year and no more than 1% of discretionary spending in all succeeding years) and then to divide this amount equally between the 535 Members of the House and Senate, setting a cap of approximately \$27 million (\$14.5 billion divided by 535). Members who do not request earmarks would have their \$27 million allocation go toward deficit reduction. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-GA) introduced [H.Res. 225](#), to require the Military-Veterans Appropriations bill to be considered as a stand alone bill, instead of being combined with one or more other appropriations bills. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX) introduced [H.R. 143](#), to suspend payroll taxes and income taxes for two months, and also terminate the TARP program. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX) introduced the [Within Our Means Budget \(WOMB\) Act](#) (H.R. 4408), to eliminate automatic increases for inflation from CBO baseline projections for discretionary spending. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX) introduced the [United Nations Voting Accountability Act](#) (H.R. 4636). The legislation prohibits United States assistance to foreign countries that oppose the position of the United States in the United Nations. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) introduced [H.J.Res. 1](#), proposing a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution of the United States that is modeled on the 1995 House-passed version. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor, despite its 179 cosponsors.

Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO) introduced the [Stopping the Excessive Growth of the Federal Government Act](#) (H.R. 5955). The legislation places certain restrictions, which would be effective until a new Congress convenes, on government spending if a Congress enacts any law that increases taxes. The restrictions, in the event of a tax increase, would be: **1)** No new appropriations to domestic federal agencies (unless the President declares a national emergency); **2)** No new positions within a domestic federal agency; and **3)** Federal agencies must abide by a 5-to-3 ratio of involuntary-separations-to-appointments. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Tom Graves (R-GA) introduced [H.R. 5882](#), to deauthorize the appropriation of funds to carry out the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Parker Griffith (R-AL) introduced [H.R. 5005](#), to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX) introduced the [TARP Repayment and Termination Act](#) (H.R. 2745). The legislation allows any institution that received assistance under the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) the right to repay all of it immediately. The legislation further requires the Secretary to liquidate at the market price warrants associated with repaid TARP assistance, and eliminates the Secretary's authority to extend TARP beyond its termination date. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX) introduced [H.J.Res. 79](#), the Spending Limit Amendment. The amendment limits federal spending to 20% of the economy (with a waiver in the event of a declaration of war or a two-thirds vote of the Congress). Federal spending was 24.7% of GDP last year, and would stay at near-record levels for the entirety of the budget window under the President's budget. For more information, see [here](#). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-TX) introduced [H.R. 3964](#), the Spending, Deficit, and Debt Control Act. This legislation would give the budget the force of law by converting it from a concurrent to a joint resolution. It establishes real, enforceable limits on spending and deficits by placing a firm cap on both discretionary and mandatory spending, and enforces these limits with automatic spending reductions aimed at the programs with the highest spending growth. It requires Congress to address the fiscal burdens mounting on future generations, and the huge unfunded obligations already looming, it provides a means of slowing the long-term growth of the government's largest entitlements, and requires regular review of entitlement spending, with a fast-track mechanism for placing these programs on a sustainable path. Congress would also be required to set aside funds for the kinds of natural disasters that regularly occur – such as wildfires, hurricanes, and the like – to prevent the abuse of must-pass “emergency” bills as vehicles for excessive non-emergency spending. Furthermore, the legislation takes meaningful steps toward eliminating unnecessary or parochial spending, including a sunset commission, a legislative line-item veto, earmark reform, and a commission to eliminate waste, fraud and abuse. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Wally Herger (R-CA) introduced the [Reform Americans Can Afford Act](#) (H.R. 5424). The legislation repeals the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, and enacts in its place the Common Sense Health Care Reform and Affordability Act (H.R. 4038). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Lynn Jenkins (R-KS) introduced the [Debt Accountability Act](#) (H.R. 3350). The legislation makes it out of order in either chamber to consider any bill, joint resolution, amendment, motion, or conference report that would increase the deficit or decrease the surplus for any fiscal year unless the appropriate chamber, by roll call vote, acknowledges the costs that

would be incurred in carrying out such measure, as estimated by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), and any effect those costs might have on the national debt. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX) introduced the [Foreign-Held Debt Transparency and Threat Assessment Act](#) (H.R. 5319). The legislation requires the President to submit a quarterly congressional committee report on the risks posed by foreign holdings of debt instruments of the United States, in both classified and unclassified form. The bill also requires the Comptroller General to submit an annual report to the appropriate congressional committees on the risks to the United States posed by the federal debt of the United States. Finally, the legislation directs the President to implement a plan of action to reduce the federal debt (through reductions to federal spending), in any case in which the President or the Comptroller General makes specified determinations that a foreign country's holdings of U.S. debt instruments pose an unacceptable risk to long-term national security or economic stability, or that the levels of risk posed by the federal debt are unsustainable. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX) introduced the [Refundable Child Tax Credit Eligibility Verification Reform Act](#) (H.R. 4528). The legislation requires individuals to provide their Social Security number in order to claim the refundable portion of the child tax credit. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) and Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) introduced [H.R. 5029](#), the Economic Freedom Act. This legislation would terminate the TARP program, repeal the remaining “stimulus” spending, and usher in several tax decreases to provide a real economic recovery plan to create jobs. This legislation would also reduce the payroll tax in half for 2010, increasing workers’ paychecks and improving the bottom line for employers which leads to job creation. H.R. 5029 would also eliminate the capital gains tax, which would encourage the risk-taking and investment that is at the heart of the entrepreneurial spirit. Furthermore, this legislation would reduce the corporate tax rate to 12.5% which would improve America’s competitiveness in the global market and provide incentives for expansion and job creation. The death tax would be permanently eliminated, ensuring that small businesses and family farms will continue creating jobs for future generations. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) introduced the [Federal Agency Performance Review and Efficiency Act](#) (H.R. 478). This legislation would require each Inspector General to annually review the efficiency and effectiveness of programs within the agency and make recommendations on whether an abolishment, reorganization, consolidation, or transfer of existing federal programs and agencies is necessary. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) introduced the [Discretionary Spending Control Act](#) (H.R. 3298). This legislation establishes discretionary spending limits for FY 2010-FY 2014. The limits would cause discretionary spending budget authority to decline 1% on an annual basis over this period.

The legislation establishes enforcement mechanisms if the cap is breached by Congress. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) and Rep. Tom Price (R-GA) introduced H.Con.Res. 281, a [balanced budget resolution](#) covering the period FY 2010-2020. The budget resolution achieves *surpluses* in 2019 and 2020, and *improves* the budget outlook in every single year. The RSC budget would propose \$6.4 trillion less debt than President Obama's budget. The RSC budget accommodates making permanent the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, and making permanent the AMT "patch," and includes none of the tax increases proposed by President Obama or congressional Democrats. The budget plan proposes that overall discretionary spending resources return to the FY 2008 levels that were in effect less than two years ago. Overall discretionary spending resources would be frozen at that level until the budget is balanced in 2019. Within this amount, the RSC budget assumes defense will be fully-funded. The budget plan further provides spending increases for Medicare equivalent to economic growth, provides spending increases for Medicaid equivalent to inflation, does not propose any changes to Social Security compared to current law, and proposes various other reforms to mandatory spending. For a complete summary of the RSC balanced budget plan, see [here](#). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation (or any other budget) in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Steve King (R-IA) introduced the [Davis-Bacon Repeal Act](#) (H.R. 2900). The Davis-Bacon Act, a Depression-era wage subsidy law, requires that each public works contract over \$2,000 contain a clause that establishes the minimum wages to be paid. Contractors and subcontractors are to pay workers a minimum wage based on the local "prevailing wage." However, these wages rarely resemble local market conditions because they are based on union recommendations. Small and minority-owned businesses are discouraged from bidding on public projects by the complex and archaic rules set forth by the Act. The inflated Davis-Bacon wage scale requirements shut small employers out of the federal construction market. By one estimate, repealing the Heritage Foundation would have saved taxpayers \$11.4 billion in FY 2010. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Steve King (R-IA) introduced [H.R. 4972](#), legislation to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Steve King (R-IA) introduced the [CUT Resolution](#) (H.Res.323), to amend the rules of the House to require the Majority Leader to bring a quarterly (by February 1st, May 1st, July 30th, and November 11th) rescissions bill before the House under an open rule. Any rescissions approved by the House would be dedicated to deficit reduction via a reduction to the 302(a) allocation for that fiscal year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jack Kingston (R-GA) introduced the [Czar Accountability and Reform \(CZAR\) Act](#) (H.R. 3226). The legislation prohibits federal funds from being used to pay for any salaries or expenses of any task force, council, or similar office which is established by the President and headed by an individual who has been appointed to such position (on other than an interim

basis), without the advice and consent of the Senate. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO) introduced [H. Res. 272](#), which would amend House rules, striking rule XXVIII, known as the “Gephardt Rule,” to provide that any measure that increases the statutory limit on the public debt shall be stand alone and require a recorded vote. Under current House Rules, adoption of the budget resolution leads to automatic adoption (by the House) of legislation increasing the debt limit without an actual vote of the House on the bill. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO) introduced [H.R. 5538](#), to eliminate taxpayer subsidies for the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). The bill would save taxpayers \$420 million annually. The Public Broadcasting Service already receives 85% of its budget from non-federal sources of support: viewer donations, local governments and universities. Given the popularity much of its programming (such as Sesame Street), PBS does not need federal subsidies. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Bob Latta (R-OH) introduced [H.R. 581](#), to eliminate automatic pay increases for Members of Congress. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Christopher Lee (R-NY) introduced [H.R. 4640](#), to eliminate automatic printing, by the Government Printing Office (GPO), of bills and resolutions. These documents would still be available on the internet. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Linder (R-GA) introduced [H.R. 5885](#), to eliminate the Advanced Earned Income Tax Credit. This program has a massive error rate. A government audit showed that 80% of payments were made to individuals that failed to meet at least one eligibility requirement. The bill would save \$1.1 billion over ten years. Eliminating this program was the [“YouCut”](#) selection for the week of July 26, 2010. Though this bill was not considered, the program was eliminated as part of P.L. 111-226 (the “State Bailout Bill”).

Rep. Blaine Leutkemeyer (R-MO) introduced [H.R. 3129](#), to prohibit United States contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY) introduced H.R. 3233, the [Predictable, Equitable, and Transparent \(PET\) Project Act](#). The bill limits total earmark spending to one-half of one percent of the discretionary spending allocation for a given year, and limits each Senator to 1/100th of the Senate earmark allocation and each Member of the House to 1/441 of the House earmark allocation. The legislation further imposes certain reporting requirements on Members and Senators who request an earmark and requires each Clerk's website to include an up-to-date, comprehensive, and searchable database comprising all such requests for the current fiscal year and the budget year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY) introduced the [Federal Workforce Reduction Act](#) (H.R. 5348). The bill freezes non-national security federal employment (all agencies outside of the Departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security). The long-term impact of the legislation would be more ambitious, since agencies would be allowed to hire 75 new employees for every 100 federal workers that retire or otherwise terminate their employment with the federal government. Consequently, the domestic federal workforce would ultimately be reduced by 25%. In addition, the bill requires the executive branch to disclose to Congress and the American people a list and description of all new federal positions, broken down by federal agency. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Connie Mack (R-FL) introduced [H.R. 4919](#), legislation to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA) introduced [H.R. 2009](#), legislation to give institutions receiving funding from the TARP program the right to immediately repay the money. The bill requires the Secretary to unconditionally accept the repayment. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI) introduced [H.R. 1648](#), to require budget resolutions to limit the growth of federal spending to the mean of annual percentage growth of wages and gross domestic product (GDP) in the United States. The bill creates a super-majority point of order for either chamber to waive this requirement. The bill further requires federal departments and agencies to report annually to the Comptroller General, and federal intelligence departments and agencies, on total department or agency operating costs for the year, with a separate statement detailing waste, fraud, and abuse during such year. The bill requires each federal department or agency to design and implement a plan to reduce its operational costs from \$.36 to \$.15 of every \$1.00 appropriated to it (or reduce such costs by 41.67%) through the use of new technologies and standard management practices. Finally, the bill requires the Secretary of the Treasury to include, on each federal tax return, a statement of the aggregate dollar amount of waste, fraud, and abuse by all federal departments and agencies for the most recent year accounted for. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI) introduced the [Taxpayers' Assets Recoupment Act](#), which among other things terminates the Secretary of the Treasury's authority under the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI) introduced the [Freedom from Rationed Health Care Act](#), which repeals provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 making appropriations for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. The money saved would be used to reduce the national debt. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC) introduced the [Commission On Reforming Entitlement Spending Act](#) (H.R. 4249), to create a 15-member commission to address the fiscal challenges facing the U.S., including the long-term imbalance between federal spending commitments and federal revenues. The bill requires the commission to report back to Congress within 180 days of enactment, and then 60 days thereafter to submit a legislative proposal. Finally, the bill creates a process for expedited consideration in the Congress of the commission's legislative proposals as well as potential alternatives offered by the President or the House and Senate Budget Committees. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC) introduced the [H.R. 6052](#), to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish and maintain a Web site to track all federal expenditures above the amount of \$500. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Buck McKeon (R-CA) introduced the [Priorities in Education Spending Act](#) (H.R. 2274), which eliminates dozens of Department of Education programs. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jerry Moran (R-KS) introduced the [Government Ownership Exit Plan Act](#) (H.R. 2904), which prohibits the federal government from acquiring, directly or indirectly, any ownership interest in a troubled asset (under the TARP program) that was purchased from a financial institution by the Secretary of the Treasury. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Jerry Moran (R-KS) introduced [H.R. 4901](#), to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-TX) introduced the [Responsible Government Empowerment Act](#). The legislation establishes a Federal Agency Sunset Commission to review and report to Congress on the efficiency and public need for each federal agency, recommending abolishment or reorganization. The legislation also makes other reforms to the federal budget process. The bill would provide a point of order against making supplemental appropriations for two or more unrelated emergencies. The legislation also prohibits earmarks from being included in supplemental appropriations bills. The bill also requires the House and Senate Budget Committees to report out of their committees legislation establishing discretionary spending caps. The bill further requires specific dollar amounts to be attached to any authorization of funds, requires CBO cost estimates for all bills considered by Congress, and requires recorded votes for any bill authorizing appropriations of more than \$75 million. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-TX) introduced the [Cap Spending to Reduce Borrowing Act](#) (H.R. 4587). The legislation eliminates the "Gephardt rule" (which leads to automatic House adoption of legislation increasing the debt limit, without an actual vote of the House, upon adoption of the budget resolution). The legislation also provides a point of order against any legislation that

would increase the debt limit unless it also includes limits on the total level of discretionary spending and on the total level of direct spending for each of 10 consecutive fiscal years beginning with the first fiscal year in which the increase in the statutory limit on the public debt would occur. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Randy Neugebauer (R-TX) introduced [H.Res. 949](#), to amend House rules to require a two-thirds vote to approve a debt limit increase, and to prohibit any other legislation from being attached to a debt limit increase. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN) introduced the [European Bailout Protection Act](#) (H.R. 5299), to prohibit International Monetary Fund money from being used to provide financing for any member state of the European Union, unless the country's debt to GDP ratio is less than 60%. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Bill Posey (R-FL) introduced the [Deficit Reduction Check-Off Act](#) (H.R. 4308). The Act would amend the tax code to add a section to the federal tax return that would allow tax-payers to voluntarily check-off an amount from \$1 to \$10 (increasing by \$1 each new taxable year) that would be used for deficit reduction. In addition, the Act would mandate an across-the-board reduction in federal spending equal to ten times the amount voluntarily contributed by the taxpayers. Federal spending on Social Security and railroad retirement benefits, Medicare benefits, judicial salaries, and veterans' benefits would be exempted from cuts. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Tom Price (R-GA) and Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) introduced [H.R. 1277](#), the Welfare Reform Restoration Act of 2009. This legislation repeals section 2101 of the "stimulus" bill, thus restoring the foundation of the 1996 welfare reform law. Section 2101 of the so-called "stimulus" created a \$5 billion "emergency fund" for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The TANF program is managed within the Office of Family Assistance within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The emergency fund for the TANF attaches strings in order for a state to receive funding that are rigged in favor of *expanding* welfare caseloads. Specifically, a state has to increase its welfare caseloads in order to receive any funding, and states receive an 80% match to cover all expenses associated with *increasing* their welfare caseloads. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor. However, House Republicans gave the House an opportunity to vote for the bill as part of the GOP's YouCut program. See the vote [here](#).

Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), and Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ) introduced [H.R. 3140](#), Reducing Barack Obama's Unsustainable Deficit Act (REBOUND), to return our nation to fiscal responsibility. President Obama promised Americans that government spending in his so-called "stimulus" package would put Americans back to work and get the economy going again. Yet unemployment is near 10%, and implementation of the ARRA has been characterized by delays, fraud, and poor management. The REBOUND Act repeals the spending portion of the President's stimulus package; prohibits the Treasury Secretary from obligating any more TARP funds; and requires all repayments of TARP funds to go exclusively

to debt reduction—preventing an open-ended slush fund. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Peter Roskam (R-IL) introduced the [Protecting Taxpayers from Excessive Compensation Act](#) (H.R. 4483), to prohibit compensation for any officer or employee of the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, during any conservatorship or receivership of such enterprise, in an amount exceeding the compensation provided to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Peter Roskam (R-IL) introduced [H.R. 5546](#), to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop and implement a fraud, waste, and abuse comprehensive pre-payment review prevention system for reviewing claims for reimbursement under the Medicare Program. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) introduced the [Government Reform Act of 2009](#) (H.R. 443), to create a Government Reform Commission, modeled after the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, that would establish a process for realigning or closing outdated, ineffective, or inefficient executive agencies. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) introduced [H.R. 5547](#), legislation to terminate the Trade and Development Agency. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) introduced the [Congressional Accountability and Line-Item Veto Act](#) (H.R. 1294), which would authorize the President to propose the repeal of any congressional earmark or the cancellation of any limited tariff benefit or targeted tax benefit. Either House may reject proposed cancellations, but the Congress could not fail to consider the President's proposal. Any repeal or cancellation would go directly to deficit reduction. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) introduced [the Roadmap for America's Future Act](#) (H.R. 4529) that would turn America's \$104 trillion worth of unfunded liabilities into surpluses, while putting Medicare and Social Security on permanently sound footing. See [here](#) for a comprehensive CBO analysis of this legislation. See [here](#) for a comprehensive summary as well as other information. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA) introduced [the SAC Act](#) (H.R. 3569). At last count, more than 50 individuals have been appointed by President Obama to serve as "czars" in his Administration. A few of the many czars appointed by the President include: Auto Recovery Czar, Car Czar, Border Czar, Climate Czar, Green Jobs Czar, Health Czar, Pay Czar, and Stimulus Accountability Czar. There's even a "Guantanamo Closure" Czar. While their titles vary by position, many of these czars wield unprecedented powers usually reserved for cabinet-level appointees—yet they seem to have been appointed without regard to the constitutional checks and balances required by the Senate confirmation process. The SAC Act would have required all

of the President's czars to be removed from their appointed, non-confirmed offices by the end of 2009. It also requires Senate confirmation of any future bureaucrat wielding czar-like powers and restricts appropriations to fund these positions and their offices. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA) introduced the [CAP the Debt Act](#) (H.R. 4262). The legislation amends House Rules to eliminate the "Gephardt Rule," which would have the impact of requiring any measure that increases the statutory limit on the public debt to receive a recorded vote. The legislation further requires a two-thirds recorded vote in the House of Representatives and in the Senate to increase the statutory limit on the public debt. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Aaron Schock (R-IL) introduced the End the Stimulus Advertisement Act (H.R. 5679) to prohibit funds made available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 from being used for physical signage indicating that a project is funded by that Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX) introduced [H.R. 5377](#), to require Amtrak to discontinue service on any long distance route for which total direct costs are more than twice as great as total revenues. Amtrak was originally created by Congress in 1970 as a for-profit corporation. 40 years later, it has received a total of \$37 billion of taxpayer subsidies. One cause of Amtrak's dependence on taxpayer subsidies is non-profitable long-distance routes. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Shadegg (R-AZ) introduced the [Health Care Choice Act](#) (H.R. 3217), to allow individuals to purchase health care coverage across state lines. Aside from the benefits to the consumers, according to CBO, this concept would also save taxpayers \$7.4 billion over ten years. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) introduced the [Save America's Future Economy Act](#) (H.R. 5323). The legislation places a cap on total federal spending, which limits total spending to population growth plus inflation growth. If Congress exceeds this spending limit, the sequestration process established by the 1985 Budget Enforcement Act would be used to bring spending back in compliance with the limit. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) introduced the [Deficit Accountability Act](#) (H.R. 201), to prevent scheduled pay increases for Members of Congress from taking place if the federal budget ran a deficit in the previous year. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-FL) introduced the [Medicare Fraud Prevention Act](#) (H.R. 203), to increase civil money penalties, criminal fines, and prison sentences for fraud and abuse under the Medicare program. The legislation further increases the amount of the surety bond required for

suppliers of durable medical equipment. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Cliff Stearns (R-FL) introduced [H.R. 2376](#), to reduce taxpayer contributions to the United Nations by an amount that is equivalent to equal to the percentage of such contribution that the Secretary determines would be allocated by the United Nations to support the United Nations Human Rights Council. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Sullivan (R-OK) introduced the [Government Neutrality in Contracting Act](#) (H.R. 983). The legislation directs the head of any federal agency that awards or obligates funds for any construction contract, or that awards grants, provides financial assistance, or enters into cooperative agreements for construction projects, to ensure that bid specifications, project agreements, or other controlling documents do not: **1)** require or prohibit a bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor from entering into, or adhering to, agreements with a labor organization, with respect to that construction project or another related construction project; or **2)** otherwise discriminate against such a party because it did or did not become a signatory or otherwise adhere to such an agreement. The legislation would have the impact of lowering the cost of federal projects, thus saving taxpayers money. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. John Sullivan (R-OK) introduced the Federal Agency Program Realignment and Closure Act ([H.R. 1023](#)). The legislation establishes a commission that will conduct an objective, non-partisan and independent review of all federal agencies and programs. The commission will target agencies and programs that perform a duplicative function, would perform better at the state level or perform better in the private sector and create a list of recommended realignments and closures. The list is then given to Congress for a simple up or down vote and cannot be amended. Enactment of this legislation would also create an additional tool that would meet this savings target without raising taxes on one single American citizen while using all savings solely for deficit reduction. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-TX) introduced [H.R. 5801](#), to prohibit the use of federal funds for the subsidization of Amtrak sleeper class service. The legislation would specifically require Amtrak to charge fees for sleeper class service on all long-distance routes that are priced to equal all of the operating costs for providing this service. The legislation further requires Amtrak to discontinue sleeper class service on any long distance route for which total costs of the service exceed total revenue for the service. Finally, the bill prohibits Amtrak from using any funds provided by the federal Government to subsidize sleeper class services. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) introduced the [Commission on the Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies Act](#) (H.R. 1802). The legislation establishes a seven member Commission on the Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies, and requires the commission to submit to Congress a plan recommending agencies and programs that should be realigned or eliminated and propose implementing legislation. The bill also provides for a process of expedited

consideration in the Congress of the commission's work. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) introduced the [No Welfare for Terrorists Act](#), which prohibits any alien formerly detained at the Department of Defense detention facility at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and brought into the United States from receiving any federal, state, or local public benefit. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) introduced [H.R. 2842](#), to rescind all discretionary spending funds, that remain unobligated, from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) introduced the [Ensure TARP Expires Act](#) (H.R. 4157) to repeal the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to extend the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) beyond December 31, 2009. The legislation also instructs the Secretary to transfer unobligated TARP funds to reduce the public debt. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Todd Tiahrt (R-KS) introduced [H.Con.Res. 201](#), to create a sixteen member Joint Select Committee on Earmark Reform and to place a moratorium on earmarks pending the committee's report. From the date of enactment, the Joint Select Committee would have six months to issue such a report. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Mike Turner (R-OH) introduced the [Warren County National Debt Reduction Act](#) (H.R. 2226), to rescind \$373,000 of stimulus money that was rejected by the Warren County Ohio Board of Commissioners because it was not needed. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Mike Turner (R-OH) introduced the [Anti-Pork Act](#) (H.R. 5997), to require that public hearings be held on all earmark requests in the district of the Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner making the request. If the congressional earmark request is for public improvement purposes, the legislation requires the local government entity having jurisdiction over the requested public improvement to pass a resolution in support of the earmark request or to have a written official communication binding to that governmental entity in support of the earmark request. The legislation further limits an earmark to covering up to 50% of the total cost of the project (which means the other half would have to come from other sources), and prohibits and earmark from being used to cover administrative expenses. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Mike Turner (R-OH) introduced the [Preserving Capitalism in America Amendment](#) (H.J.Res 57). The legislation would amend the Constitution of the United States to state: "The United States shall not own, subscribe to, or otherwise have any interest in the stock or equity of any company, association or corporation." The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) introduced the [Congressional Pay Reform Act](#), to eliminate automatic pay increases for Members of Congress, and to provide that any bill or resolution, and any amendment to any bill or resolution, which would increase Members' pay may be adopted only by a recorded vote. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) introduced the [Government Credit Card Abuse Prevention Act](#) (H.R. 216), to require the head of each executive agency, except the Department of Defense (DOD), to establish safeguards and internal controls for purchase cards, convenience checks, and travel cards. The legislation further requires each agency Inspector General to periodically conduct risk assessments of agency purchase and travel card programs and associated internal controls, analyze weaknesses and the frequency of improper activity, and develop a plan to determine the scope, frequency, and number of periodic audits of cardholders. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC) introduced [H.R. 2063](#), to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to use repaid Troubled Asset Relief Program funds to pay down the public debt. The Democrat majority has yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

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