



Sunset Caucus

Waste Action Alert

A publication of the RSC Sunset Caucus from co-chairs Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Jason Chaffetz (R-UT)
Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), RSC Chairman

Federal Agency Program Realignment and Closure Act

June 9, 2010

Program or Item Targeted: Wasteful, duplicative, and unnecessary federal spending.

Why This Program or Item Is Wasteful: President Obama is right when he said *“This starts with the painstaking work of examining every program, every entitlement, every dollar of government spending and asking ourselves: Is this program really essential? Are taxpayers getting their money’s worth?”* Yet he simply has not done it. Democrats in Congress also are failing to produce a budget, a fundamental responsibility that acts as a roadmap. Without it, Democrats are paving the way for unparalleled amounts of federal spending. As the national debt creeps towards \$13 trillion, this spending must stop.

Legislative Steps Taken So Far: Rep. John Sullivan (R-OK) introduced H.R. 1023, the Federal Agency Program Realignment and Closure Act, which would create a 17 member, bipartisan commission that will provide an objective, non-partisan, and independent review and analysis 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. This forward looking bill is closely modeled after the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) process and utilizes the proven BRAC model that efficiently restructured the DOD to combat the federal government's propensity to spend throughout all agencies and programs. If it is good enough to reform our nation's military, it is good enough to be applied to the entire federal government.

Support for the Legislative Steps Taken: H.R. 1023 currently has 24 cosponsors, including: Akin, Bachmann, Barrett, Bartlett, Bishop, Blackburn, Bonner, Broun, Chaffetz, Coffman, Cole, Fallin, Franks, Gallegly, Garrett, Gingrey, Hensarling, Hoekstra, Lamborn, Manzullo, McCaul, McClintock, Myrick and Rooney. Speaker Pelosi and the Democrat majority have yet to consider this legislation in committee or on the House floor.

MEMBER ACTION ITEM: Rep. Sullivan encourages all Members to cosponsor H.R. 1023. For more information, or to cosponsor, contact Jon Oehmen at Jon.Oehmen@mail.house.gov to cosponsor or for more information.

If you would like to participate in eliminating wasteful programs with the RSC Sunset Caucus, please e-mail Brad.Watson@mail.house.gov.

If you have a bill or amendment to highlight in the next Waste Action Alert please contact Kimberly.Ellis@mail.house.gov.

Note: Not every item featured in the Waste Action Alerts is necessarily endorsed by the RSC. These Alerts highlight the individual initiatives of members of the RSC Sunset Caucus.

*“The RSC Sunset Caucus uncovers government waste and seeks to eliminate it,
working to sunset programs that taxpayers shouldn’t be paying for.”*

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Republican Study Committee