

AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY

Talking Points: Taxpayer Tea Party

April 2009

America is experiencing an awakening. Taxpayers everywhere are revolting against the unending growth in government spending, funded at their expense. Taxpayer Tea Parties are springing up across the country as citizens come together to protest the audacity, inefficiency and arrogance of our elected officials. Just as the citizens of a young republic came together in Boston in 1773 to reject excessive taxation by the Crown, so too do we come together now to reject oppressive taxation by our own government.

Our Message

- Stop the handouts to Wall Street.
- Stop the Federal Reserve's printing press, before we end up in 1970's-style stagflation.
- Stop the federal bailouts that pick winners and losers in the marketplace.
- Stop exploding the national debt, which will crush our children and grandchildren.
- The grassroots MUST take action in order to achieve these goals.

Federal Spending

This year, the federal government is expected to spend \$3.9 trillion dollars—that's more than TOTAL federal spending from the founding of the United States until 1974, 185 years!

This year, the federal government is expected to borrow \$1.75 trillion dollars to finance its deficit—that's more than TOTAL federal borrowing from the founding of the United States until 1986, 196 years!

The Obama Budget

The 2010 Obama budget contains a net tax hike of \$1.35 trillion.

More than 42% of the so-called tax cuts in Obama's budget are really checks mailed to people who pay no taxes--old fashioned welfare.

The Obama budget proposes the largest excise tax in history, disguised as a cap-and-trade energy scheme. He even admitted the negative effect it would have on consumers; his quote while speaking to *The San Francisco Chronicle* can be seen on the right.

The Obama budget brings back the death tax, currently scheduled for total repeal in 2010—at a top rate of 45 percent—in a FOOTNOTE!

“Under my plan of a cap-and-trade system, electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket... they would have to retrofit their operations. That will cost money. They will pass that money on to consumers.” – President Obama

Endless Government Bailouts

The viability of our free marketplace is under threat from the endless bailouts that big government is providing to Wall Street, AIG, automobile manufactures, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. All of the money being sloshed around Washington and Wall Street will have to be paid back--with interest, by our children and grandchildren.

It is hard to keep track with all the checks flying out the door, but at last count the government had committed over \$12 trillion of your money to prop up failing institutions, and there is no end in sight.

Companies who have been bailed out have been forced to cede control to the government, resulting in wage caps for private companies, government manipulation of business models and even the firing of CEOs.

IRS History and Horror Stories

The IRS once seized all the money in Katie Wier's bank account to pay her parent's delinquent taxes. Katie is six years old and the IRS collected \$26.

In 1988, the IRS seized the \$10.35 from Garry Keffer's savings account. Keffer, who was 12 years old, took matters into his own hands. He wrote President Reagan, saying, "I am now feeling distrustful of the United States due to my financial devastation."

Between 1986 and 1998 the IRS wasted \$5 billion on a computer system that didn't work.

The first income tax in 1913 required just 2% of American families to complete a tax return. The highest tax rate then was 7%.

The Gettysburg Address -- 270 words. The Declaration of Independence --1,337 words. The Holy Bible -- 773,000 words. The IRS Code -- more than 3.4 million words; printed 60 lines to a page, it would fill more than 7500 pages.

The IRS sends out 8 billion pieces of paper to taxpayers every year; if they pasted together all of their annual paperwork it would wrap around the Earth roughly 36 times.

In 1894, *The New York Times* described the first income tax to pass Congress as a "vicious, inequitable, unpopular, impolitic, and socialistic act....The crusade for an income tax is the most unreasoning and un-American movement in the politics of the last quarter-century."

"The hardest thing in the world to understand is the federal income tax." - Albert Einstein

"The income tax has made liars out of more Americans than the game of golf." - Will Rogers