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Congress: Just Vote the Constitution!

[W]e are going to put an end to the notion that the American taxpayer exists to fund the Federal Government.

— Ronald Reagan, July 1980

Persistent recession, poor job opportunities, declining assets. Many Americans fear the American dream is unraveling and see out-of-control federal spending and debt as major contributors.

Responding to public frustration, politicians have postured with proposals for “tough” spending cuts. Some even advocate amending the Constitution to require a balanced budget and/or to put a cap on spending as a percentage of the economy (Gross Domestic Product).

But all such proposals miss the mark. They fail to address the forces and agendas that are continuing to take us down the road to disaster.

To stop a terminal disease and restore national “health,” more Americans must diagnose the illness correctly.

Massive Violation of the Constitution

An important starting point is to recognize that America has been on the wrong path for decades.

Political leaders from both parties and the Establishment media have promoted a vision of what the federal government should do, far different from what America’s founding fathers spelled out in the Constitution.

The framers of our Constitution knew that “government, like fire, is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.” So, they insisted that any

functions entrusted to government should be executed at the lowest possible level.

Following that wisdom, the federal government was to do merely those things that the states could not do effectively for themselves.

For most of our nation’s history, it was widely understood that the Constitution limited the federal government to a relatively small number of specifically authorized functions. A few examples, however, illustrate how blatantly our “modern” leaders have ignored that constraint.

On February 1, 2010, the Obama administration unveiled its \$3.83 trillion FY 2011 budget proposal:

- Education Secretary Arne Duncan proudly announced: “[The president’s budget] is investing heavily in

education at every level from early childhood education to K to 12 reform to college access. It’s a cradle to career agenda.”

- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack’s statement reflected his department’s “modern” role: “The challenges facing rural communities for decades have grown more acute, which is why the Obama administration is committed to new approaches to strengthen rural America.”

- At the HHS press conference, Secretary Kathleen Sebelius boasted: “We’re investing new funds in what I consider to be the backbone of the American health care system, community health centers....”

- And she showed there was no limit





to government's eagerness to "help": "These [HHS] programs provide relief to family caregivers whether it's ... an adult day care center where they can drop a parent off for the day, or transportation to get the senior to the doctor or a store."

Of course, this usurpation did not start with the Obama administration. In the sixties, for example, when a subservient Congress created President Johnson's Department of Housing and Urban Development, the *Arizona Republic* protested:

Nowhere does the U.S. Constitution give the federal government any control over urban affairs....

Scarcely a week passes but some city or county department head goes from Phoenix to Washington to get the answer to a problem which, a few years ago, would have been solved in city hall or the court house.

Indeed, there is no constitutional basis for most of what the federal government does today. And through usurpation of authority, it has become a socialist monster, destroying our economic prosperity and laying the foundation for the extinction of liberty.

Principled Offense Essential

Napoleon Bonaparte once aptly observed: "The purely defensive is doomed to defeat." Working merely to *cap* spending is a prescription for disaster.

To restore America's health, government must be put back in its cage under constitutional restraints. In the process, whole functions, even departments, must be wiped out.

The Constitution does not need to be amended — it simply needs to be enforced.

The Power of the Purse

The Constitution provides the people with the means to control the federal government — through the power of the House of Representatives. James Madison, the "father of the Constitution," emphasized in Federalist No. 58 that a simple majority in the House alone has the power to bring government under control:

The House of Representatives cannot only refuse, but they alone can propose the supplies requisite for the support of government. They, in a word, hold the purse — that powerful instrument ... [for reducing] ... all the overgrown prerogatives of the other branches of government.

Against An Organized Conspiracy

Why hasn't the House exercised that power? The answer points to the other common flaw in diagnosing America's rush to disaster: not understanding the organized forces that have been pushing us down the socialist path.

Professor Carroll Quigley, Bill Clinton's mentor at Georgetown University, was close to those forces. In 1966, Quigley described the secret maneuvers of a network seeking to control the finances and affairs of governments:

I know of the operations of this network because I have studied it for twenty years and was permitted for two years, in the early 1960's, to examine its papers and secret records.

Quigley argued: "[T]he two parties should be almost identical, so that the American people can 'throw the rascals out' at any election without leading to any profound or extensive shifts in policy."

Quigley's advocacy reflects post-World War II America. Despite

political showboating, leaders from both parties have pressed for more support for the United Nations, refused to enforce our border, and supported hemispheric integration (e.g., NAFTA), to list a few examples.

Solution Not in Washington

For congressmen to stand up to the internationalist-socialist grip on government, an informed constituency must drive them to do so.

To supply that backbone, concerned Americans need to build a force that can bypass a hostile Establishment media and mold local public opinion.

Recommended Actions

1. Visit FreedomFirstSociety.org and get involved in this campaign.
2. Read and share *Masters of Deception* [contains additional strategy] (\$12 plus \$2.50 standard shipping):

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