



# April Action Report

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U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development



**Offense essential:** Dept. Secretary Julian Castro and the President celebrate the unconstitutional HUD’s 50th anniversary. Created in 1965 as part of Johnson’s “Great Society” program, HUD greatly increased state and individual dependence on Washington. Phony “conservative” leadership accepted this power shift, merely arguing pragmatically against new socialist initiatives — a road to defeat. Leadership for essential offense won’t come from Establishment media and politicians who ignore a subversive driving agenda for power.

### “Concealed” Power of the Purse

This [Ryan/Price] budget is not a serious effort to tackle our mounting debt *caused by wasteful spending*. Once again Congress promises future spending cuts in return for higher spending today. That’s no longer acceptable. The future cuts never come. [Emphasis added.] — Paul Winfree, Heritage Foundation, 3-15-16

Americans, and conservatives in particular, are being deceived with sham battles that distract from the real source of America’s problems and their solution.

*Our fiscal problems are not due to*

*wasteful spending*. They are the result of an unconstitutional accumulation of *socialist power* in Washington. Decades in building, this revolutionary power grab has been accomplished by an Insider Conspiracy seeking to reverse the master-servant relationship between the American people and their government.

As for solutions, not only is the House’s real power of the purse concealed from the public, but so too is the Constitution as the road map back to limited, fiscally responsible government.

We are constantly told that the House must compromise with the Senate and the President. However, if the House doesn’t agree to fund a (discretionary)

program, it doesn’t get funded. It’s that simple. In reality, the House alone could roll back unconstitutional government were it inclined to use its power of the purse *strategically*.

### Support Surgical Strategy

Since many Americans have become dependent on federal programs, the House has no political leverage in a fight over last-ditch, omnibus all-

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or-nothing spending bills. Instead, *the House must use its authority surgically.*

To begin the rollback process and build public understanding and support, the House should work to pass the 12 annual appropriations bills (regular order), initially making deep cuts in one or more of the 12 appropriations bills where a standoff would not create a credible crisis. The House should force the Senate and the President to choose between accepting deep, responsible cuts in unconstitutional programs, en route to phasing them out entirely, and taking the obvious blame for a complete shutdown of *a segment* of federal operations.

Example: The Transportation/ HUD bill. When Congress created the unconstitutional Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1965 as part of President Johnson's "Great Society" program, 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.

Even Continuing Resolutions (CRs) can be used surgically. They don't have to encompass everything. And if House liberals want to remain difficult, an entire appropriation area could be left without funding.

However, we are kidding ourselves if we think the GOP House majority currently has any intention of using its power strategically to roll back major unconstitutional inroads. An uniformed public has not yet supplied the House or Senate as a whole with the backbone to overcome Establishment Insider influence and do what America desperately needs.

So our question needs to be: What should we insist our representatives do when they find themselves in the minority? We will return to that important question in a moment.

## Budget Battles

At the end of October, outgoing Speaker of the House John Boehner negotiated a backroom budget deal that gave President Obama and the big

spenders everything they wanted. The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 drew the unanimous support of House and Senate Democrats, including Nancy Pelosi. Only a minority of Republicans in both chambers supported it. (See Senate Vote 294.)

The "budget deal" raised the spending caps imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011, providing new budget authority for FY 2016 and FY 2017 (and removed the limit on the National Debt through March 16, 2017).

South Carolina Representative Mark Sanford, one of the few opponents allowed floor time to speak against the deal, provided needed perspective:

As draconian as [the budget caps] are, they represent the only piece of financial restraint in Washington, D.C., that has encumbered this entity....

Therefore, I would remind everyone of what Admiral Mike Mullen said, who is the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He said that the greatest threat to our civilization was the national debt. At the end of the day, this bill compounds it; and for that reason, I would respectfully encourage a "no."

Subsequently, GOP House leaders teamed with Democrats to fund the government at the negotiated level for FY 2016 (ending September 30, 2016) (House Roll Call 705). Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions expressed his outrage:

This bill explains why Republican and Democratic voters are in open rebellion ... they elect people that they believe are going to take action to protect their security, their jobs, their wages and what do they get? A bill that is worse than current law, goes in the opposite direction.... No wonder people are upset. This legislation represents a



**Deficit hawk:** S. Carolina Rep. Mark Sanford blasts the 2015 "bipartisan" budget deal, which lifted the "draconian" budget caps.

further disenfranchisement of the American voter.

— Roll Call, 12-17-15

So the battle now shifts to funding for FY 2017 (ending Sep. 30, 2017).

### FY 2017 Budget Battle

The annual congressional budget (House or Senate) is used to guide the 12 appropriations subcommittees as to how much each can appropriate in its detailed proposal sent to the floor. According to Wikipedia: “There is no obligation for either or both houses of Congress to pass a budget resolution. There may not be a resolution every year; if none is established, the previous year’s resolution remains in force....”

On March 17, the House Budget Committee approved a budget blueprint supported by Republican Party leaders. This \$1.07 trillion budget for discretionary spending conformed to the Boehner-negotiated pact. It is the same figure that the Senate will be using with the support of Senate Democrats.

However, House “conservatives” have rebelled against this number in a widely reported standoff by “hard-liners.” They want to return to the \$1.04 trillion budget caps. But this internal party “split” is over a mere 3 percent of *budgeted* discretionary spending, while much more than *half* of what the federal government *does* is unconstitutional.

These budget battles usually lead to omnibus spending bills and continuing resolutions that fail to use any of the House’s real power of the purse.

### Hold Their Feet to the Fire

With a Congress that refuses to deal seriously with unconstitutional spending, what should be our expectations of our own congressmen? We suggest communicating the following:

**Point 1:** Compromising with socialists or Insider-driven party leaders to “cut

the best deal possible” is to continue on the road to disaster. What America desperately needs are congressmen who stand on principle by honoring their oath to support the Constitution.

**Point 2:** In providing that example, responsible congressmen should support strategy that highlights *the effective use* of the House’s power of the purse. In particular, they should never agree to an omnibus spending bill. *In exchange for their support*, congressmen should demand that their party leadership use good strategy for cutting back unconstitutional government. This forces party leadership to reveal its hand that it prefers working with the big-government socialists.

**Point 3:** Reject the implied suggestions that it is okay for government to spend “as much as we can afford” and that the total *amount* of government spending is our sole concern. More than 50 percent of what the government does is unconstitutional and destructive of our freedom and prosperity.

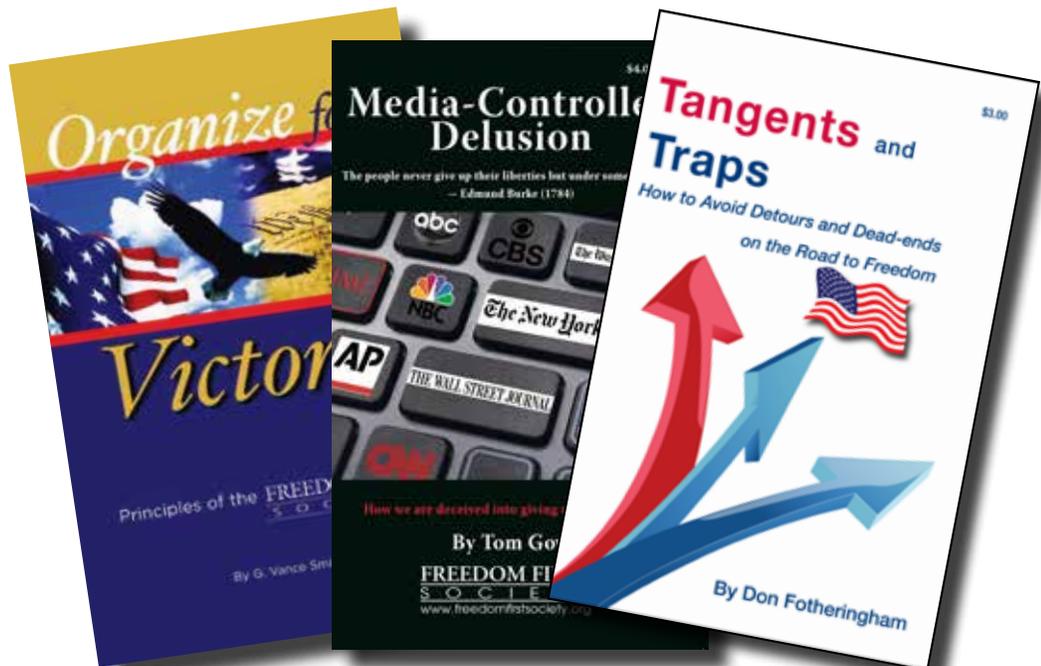
**Recommended actions:** 1) **Build** public understanding (preferably by developing and recruiting prospects into FFS) of the *concealed powers*

*of Congress* (e.g., the House’s real power of the purse, the Constitution as a road map for restoring limited government, Article III, Section 2 for curbing abuses of the Supreme Court, and expose the fraud of a BBA or Con-con). 2) **Communicate** the above three points to your congressmen and get others to do so. Include a copy of this *Action Report*. 3) **Introduce** prospects to our no-nonsense FFS congressional scorecard so they can view how their congressmen vote and share that information with others.

### Recruitment

Last month, we discussed our role as guides in recruiting good prospects. We suggested that a good way to start was to introduce prospects to FFS leadership at Level II — the facts the media and politicians keep hidden regarding the origins of America’s problems. For doing so, we recommended sharing our *Media-Controlled Delusion* booklet.

This year’s presidential primaries reveal unprecedented dissatisfaction with Washington’s unwillingness to gain control of our borders and with the migration of quality jobs overseas. Our *Media-Controlled Delusion* booklet addresses both of those problems.





If your prospects are receptive, the next step should be to give them hope by introducing them to Freedom First Society's Level III leadership for a realistic and responsible solution.

It is not enough to wake up prospects to the problem without offering a solution. We don't want them to fall for any of the dead-end, neutralizing, and even dangerous tangents promoted as ostensible fixes. (See, for example, Don Fotheringham's *Tangents and Traps*.)

For those who show sufficient interest, our founding book, *Organize for Victory!*, provides a thorough analysis of the proper course to pull us out of our mess. Another alternative is to invite prospects to a group recruiting presentation by our president, G. Vance Smith.

## Save our Constitution!

by Andrew Carver

This month we are excited to announce some victories against states' Con-con measures. Clearly, the truth in the hands of a determined few is a potent educational weapon!

Organized efforts by our members, including phone calls and email to legislators, undoubtedly had much to do with our side's recent victories in blocking Con-con measures in Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. In addition, a concerted member effort in Idaho defeated a measure designed to win support for a Con-con resolution.

But let's not get complacent. When an enemy gets more desperate, usually it becomes more dangerous!

So let's take the offensive. We have an opportunity right now to get our state legislators' attention, by warning them of the futility of a pro-Con-con initiative. All the state legislators have recently received an email inviting them to the June 16-17 meeting of the Assembly of State Legislators (ASL), a group whose sole reason for being is to draft a set of rules (says their website) "under which an Article V convention could function."

But we know that an Article V drafting convention is sovereign, and can write its own rules. No one can impose any rules on it. (See Don Fotheringham's terrific posted articles on Con-cons.) So, take this opportunity to remind your state's legislators that the ASL's drafting a set of rules can afford no security against a "runaway convention."

## Campaign for Decency — Curb the Courts

Silence is not always golden! Sometimes rather it is deadly poison.

The mainstream media are slipping us this poison on several issues today. As we show elsewhere, their silence on how to rein in our runaway budget is a treacherous lie. Likewise their silence on the grave dangers of an Article V Con-con. But here let us note their deafening silence regarding the Article III, Sec. 2 solution to our

runaway Supreme Court.

Let us not be lulled into joining such poisonous silence! Let us rather be the ones who break it!

Look this month for a chance to talk to someone — maybe your senators or representative in Washington! — about this cunningly unmentioned, but purely constitutional way to "rein in the Court." If you are met with incredulity, you may point out that the media have intentionally hidden this solution from the people.

Then, invite your friends to join your silence-breaking efforts. And invite your senators or representative to introduce a judiciary-restraining concurrent resolution along the lines of our posted model resolution (see "Our Campaign for Decency — Curb the Courts").

## Action Summary

**Note:** Some requests below are ongoing from previous *Action Reports*.

1. **Contact** your congressmen re what you expect in curbing unconstitutional spending. **Encourage** others to do likewise.
2. **Share** copies of *Media-Controlled Delusion* widely. **Follow up** to develop and recruit qualified prospects.
3. **Build** an audience for a group recruiting presentation. **Contact** our office to schedule a presentation of "How to Restore America's Greatness."
4. **Contact** your state legislators to insist they oppose any calls for a Con-con. **Ask** others to do likewise.
5. **Ask** your congressmen to introduce a *concurrent* resolution to limit the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court (Article III, Section 2). **Inform** others of this congressional power.
6. **Share** a link to this *Action Report* and to selected articles on our website.



**Article V scam:** Even though a sovereign Con-con cannot be controlled, the ASL deceives state legislators by drafting unenforceable rules.