

Join the Debate

Jul. 28, 2011

Driving the Conversation:

Arena Ref: [David Mark](#)



David Boaz Executive VP, Cato Institute :

No one is questioning the debt. There will be no default on August 2 or thereabouts. So there's no emergency here.

The real problem here is that a leader of the first branch of government is supinely asking the President to arrogate yet more powers to the executive branch, overriding Congress's responsibility to decide how much the government should tax, spend, and borrow. If the president can go to war without the authority of Congress, regulate greenhouse gases without the authority of Congress, and borrow money without the authority of Congress, one might ask why we're spending money on the salaries of Mr. Clyburn and his colleagues.