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What Do the Administration's Budget Cuts Really Look Like?

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The Cato Institute's Tad DeHaven [has an interesting graph](#) of what the \$61 billion in cuts proposed in the House Republicans' plan to fund the rest of 2011 would look like against the total budget. The answer? You guessed it: not much.

*As the chart shows, the proposed cuts amount to **less than a third of what taxpayers will pay in interest on the debt alone this year.***

The \$61 billion in cuts, which are woefully insufficient, would come from a relatively small category of government spending (non-defense, discretionary spending). However, that merely indicates the need to tackle defense spending and budget-busting "mandatory" programs.

[emphasis mine]

As DeHaven notes, "Senate Democrats are balking at the \$61 billion in cuts and the president has issued a veto threat." If Democrats can't even stomach to cut this much from the budget, the prospects for long-term reform are not good.

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