



Trump's budget turns his proposed policies into some actual numbers

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Representatives and senators torn between keeping the president happy and keeping voters in their district happy may well opt to cast their lots with their constituents.

“While almost *every* Republican claims to be a fiscal conservative, many of them defend subsidy programs important to their states or personal interests”, observed Chris Edwards, editor of the Cato Institute’s DownsizingGovernment.org, who tossed out rural business subsidies as an example.

The budget would cut funding for other programs and keep the Federal Work-Study Program in check, Reim writes.

During his campaign, President Donald Trump said he would hold the federal budget deficit at current levels and start paying down the national debt, which stood at \$19 *trillion* past year. It reduces money for Federal Emergency Management Agency grants to state and local governments as well as aid to those governments for incarcerating immigrants who are in the country illegally.

On March 16, 2017, the Trump administration released what has been called its fiscal year (FY) 2018 “skinny” budget.

The Trump White House’s strategy stands in stark contrast to Republican Gov. Bill Haslam’s approach, which has included money for a number of unprecedented programs under the Drive to 55 mantle, including the Tennessee Promise scholarship and the proposed Tennessee Reconnect grant that combine to offer tuition-free community college to virtually *every* Tennessean.

He also decided citizens couldn’t be expected to fund such worthless agencies and programs like the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The media try to avoid being elitist by not describing Trump’s supporters as ignorant for voting for a totally self-centered billionaire whose cruel budget and massive increases in the cost of

health care for older Americans will only make their lives worse. Imagine cutting the EPA budget by over 31% on day one. Programs targeted in Trump's budget, such as legal aid, heating assistance, housing assistance, rural airports, after-school programs and weatherization services, all benefit low-income Americans.

You have to wonder what's behind **Donald Trump's** proposed budget that maximizes military expenditure for hard-powered war preparation with more tanks, bombers, missiles and even more nuclear weapons being planned.

Welfare programs will be forced to become more efficient and less wasteful.

Meals on Wheels. A lifeline today for 2.4 million American seniors and disabled people, including 500,000 veterans, delivered by 5,000 community-based programs – which receive 35 percent of their funding from the departments of Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development. And the Department of Agriculture would see a 20.7 percent reduction. If they water down cuts, they will make the USA deficits larger, which could also affect the gold market.

Republicare strips Planned Parenthood of **Medicaid** reimbursements that account for 40 percent of its overall annual budget and 75 percent of federal funding. Trump says they're a waste. "The president wants a smaller EPA", Mulvaney explained. Even military generals and admirals have protested against this folly. Since it is tax *time* it is only natural that revenues would relatively overtake expenditures, for a short *time*. No one has ever taken a serious stab at reducing fraud and cheating in **Social Security**, Medicare, food stamps, earned income tax credits and so on. What else would be left to chop? While I will not adamantly defend Trump's budget, I will put it in some statistical perspective. U.S. Rep. Greg Walden needs to show some courage and follow suit, rather than worrying about being the subject of a Trump tweet if he dares question whatever Trump wants. Downsize useless government programs, cut taxes, rebuild the economy and jobs by promoting healthy and profitable businesses.