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## The Hill's Floor Action Blog

### Kyl: GOP wants 10-year plan to cut spending as part of debt deal

By Pete Kasperowicz - 06/20/11 04:31 PM ET

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Senate Minority Whip Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.) on Monday said Senate Republicans want commitments on a 10-year budget plan that guarantees reduced spending as part of any agreement to increase the debt ceiling.

"Let's have a down payment on significant savings now," he said. "Let's set the budget numbers for the next 10 years so that they actually represent a reduction in spending, not an increase."

Kyl added that Republicans also want real entitlement reform, to make sure spending continues to drop after 10 years. He said Republicans are likely to be uninterested in any agreement that does not include these elements.

"Let's do that in such a way that we absolutely put constraints on Congress and the president — we put us in a straitjacket so to speak — so that we can't create exceptions and waivers and get around it in other ways," he said. "Unless we do those things, I don't think most of the people on my side of the aisle are going to have an appetite for increasing the debt ceiling. I know I'm not."

Kyl used his time on the floor to argue that raising taxes is not necessarily the way to increase government revenues, and said a study by Alan Reynolds of the Cato Institute shows that historically, more revenue is generated by lower taxes. Kyl argued that this is because taxes are a tax on economic activity, which is stunted when taxes rise.

Vice President Biden's debt-ceiling group is expected to meet at least three times this week in the hopes of securing an agreement on how to allow for an increase. Kyl is part of this group, along with House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.), Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), and others.

#### Comments (25)

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Everything Sen. Kyl says should come with the disclaimer "Not intended as a factual statement." Sure, taxes are a tax, as he so astutely observes, but they don't necessarily stunt economic activity. In fact, the economy grew at a much SLOWER rate during the Bush years, when taxes were low, than during the previous Clinton administration, when taxes were higher. Oh, and the Clinton years, with their high tax rates, incidentally saw some of the highest employment rates ever recorded by the U.S. Funny, that.

BY **EXCEPT** on 06/20/2011 at 17:31

NO! No cuts over 10 years, or 20 years, or 50 years. Matching cuts NOW. Cap. Balance.

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Kicking things forward into the future doesn't ever solve anything - it's just an attempt to induce voter amnesia - "maybe they'll forget about it".

BY **GALEN.SLADE** on 06/20/2011 at 17:34

@Except: Democrats have always been for higher, which is part of spending other peoples money. He would be crying if he had to pay more.

The Clinton administration had a republican congress that also wanted a balanced budget. He would have not had the success with his own party in power in congress.

Bush did great (Dow of 14.4K) until congress went to the democrat party in 2007. The wheels started coming off in 2008.

BY **FRED** on 06/20/2011 at 17:52

@FRED: In your 4 lines, you want to give credit to republican congress in clinton years (which were good years) but at the same time blame democrat congress for bad years (when president performed horribly and which reflected in 2008 elections). Have some consistency before you write next time.

BY **WACK** on 06/20/2011 at 18:11

You got to get what you can immediately, how can you tell future senate and house reps what they can do when they get into office. Cut now as much as you can!

BY **WILLIAM** on 06/20/2011 at 18:14

That would include Defense Sen Kyl. I hope as well?

BY **CHRIS IN VIRGINIA** on 06/20/2011 at 18:33

@ Except- you're wrong. First of all, the highest ever U.S. employment was reached in 2007, at 146.6 million private-sector jobs. Secondly, when Clinton signed into law the democrat controlled congress's tax increases in 1993, income-tax revenue to the treasury actually fell that year. Revenues rebounded because of the newly created technology-sector and tax-free e-commerce, which stimulated job growth in spite of the dems tax increases. This, coupled with the republican legislated welfare reform the Clinton signed into law after twice vetoing it, is what provided growth in the 90's.

I realize the truth is painful for you, but its still the truth!

BY **THE PAINFUL TRUTH** on 06/20/2011 at 18:34

@ Wack, Fred is right, its congress that controls the purse-strings! READ YOUR CONSTITUTION!

BY **THE PAINFUL TRUTH** on 06/20/2011 at 18:42

No spend, no gain!

BY **RLM** on 06/20/2011 at 19:53

90% of far right wing extremists are too fat to see their pee-pee

90% of far right wing extremists traded their guts for keyboards

90% of far right wing extremists are funded by performing abortions

90% of far right wing extremists molest a family member

#notintendedtobeafactualstatement

BY **LLOYD C** on 06/20/2011 at 20:07

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