



## Wrong about Bush tax cuts

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I have a problem with James Sefcak's recent letter to the editor titled "GOP no friend of middle class," in which he responded to a letter written by Gene Lemon. He uses as his source an article written by Carl Gibson of the Huffington Post, a far-left media outlet supported in part by socialist George Soros.

Sefcak states that the Bush tax cuts did nothing to increase revenues to the government coffers during the 2001 cuts and the 2003 tax cuts. He also states that during Clinton's presidency he had balanced the budget and erased the deficit. What he didn't mention was the fact that Congress changed hands in his second term and Newt Gingrich became Speaker of the House.

In 1993 Gingrich's Contract with America was presented to Clinton and the Welfare Reform Act was signed into law. As for the budget being balanced, yes, Clinton was there in 1995 but he had absolutely nothing to do with balancing the budget. In March of 1995 Gingrich united the entire Republican House Caucus and vowed to balance the budget in seven years. Amid all the skeptics and naysayers, he did it in four years (Stephen Moore, CATO Institute).

Here's some more facts for Sefcak. Bush presented two tax cut measures to Congress, one in 2001 to stem the rising recession occurring as Bush took office in 2000. It was called the "Economic Growth and Recovery Act" and it was Bush's version of Obama's "stimulus" except that it didn't expand government or cost the taxpayer \$236,000 per job saved or created.

The EGRA did, however, cut tax rates, increased the child tax credit, raised the standard tax deduction for married couples and increased the caps for individual savings programs such as IRAs and 401(k)s. The result? By November 2001, the recession was history.

In 2003, Bush presented to Congress the "Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act." It cut taxes on dividends and capital gains. After the tax cuts in 2003, unemployment fell to its lowest level in 20 years. GDP was also its highest in 20 years. (National Center for Policy Analysis).

When Obama took over, we had an unemployment rate of 5 percent.

As a result of the Bush tax cuts, the "rich" paid more taxes in 2005 than any other time in the last 20 years. In 1990 they paid 25 percent of ALL income taxes. In 2005 they paid 39 percent of all income taxes paid in the country.

Sefcak's letter is confusing because he writes as if Bush was still calling the shots in 2011. Here's a news flash for him: Obama is the president now, and he is the one handing out the bucks to all his cronies in Wall Street and the unions who helped put him in office. If Sefcak is angry that the White House is giving the rich \$520,000 bonuses, it's not the Republicans doing it, it's the Democrats.

If anyone is an enemy of the middle class, it's the liberal progressives. Obama has been in campaign mode for the last two months and all you hear him say is that we must sacrifice a little more to get his policies working. Folks, he's had three years of failures and broken promises. It is indeed time to wake up America and smell the coffee. It is time to vote Obama out and conservatism in.

**Noel Dusek**

## **Yuma**

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