



Published: November 01, 2011

[Home](#) / [news](#) / [opinion](#) /

## Paul's \$1 trillion in cuts

**By The Orange County**

The odds of Ron Paul being nominated by Republicans and defeating President Barack Obama are, in the words of one news service, "beyond remote." Perhaps. But Paul's "Plan to Restore America" is breathtaking, nevertheless.

Within three years, Paul says, the budget could be balanced. He would start by cutting the planned \$3.7 trillion government spending by \$1 trillion in his first year. His plan does this without fiscal harm to Medicare or Social Security funding. He would permit younger workers to opt out of Social Security, an excellent idea to empower millions of people to control their own retirement investments while simultaneously relieving taxpayers of the mounting deficit.

Meanwhile, true fiscal conservatives and limited-government champions should applaud Paul's proposal to eliminate five Cabinet departments, including one that Ronald Reagan unsuccessfully targeted, Education, along with Commerce, Energy, HUD and Interior. He also would repeal Obamacare and the onerous financial regulations of Dodd-Frank and Sarbanes-Oxley. Paul would cut 10 percent of the federal work force while reducing the corporate tax rate to 15 percent and extending the Bush tax cuts.

Libertarian Cato Institute budget analyst Tad DeHaven told us Paul's plan should prompt other candidates to specify what they would cut. Let the explanations begin.