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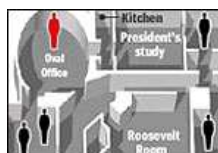


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THE BUDGET

House GOP Unveils Proposal to Slash Budget

By Lori Montgomery

Responding to a challenge from President Obama, House Republican leaders today unveiled [a plan to slice \\$375 billion out of the federal budget](#) over the next five years by capping nondefense spending at the rate of inflation and requiring that any bailout money repaid to the Treasury be dedicated to deficit reduction.

Aside from those two big-ticket items, House GOP leaders came up with less than \$25 billion in actual program reductions and terminations over the next five years, or about \$5 billion in cuts per annum -- less than a third of the \$17 billion in program reductions and terminations that Obama has proposed for the fiscal year that begins in October.

The GOP plan -- which would rid the federal government of the office of the Treasurer, eliminate a program currently dedicated to creating safe routes to school and bar federal employees from getting paid for full-time union work, for example -- was greeted with derision by analysts dedicated to reducing the size of government.

"Like the specific cuts in the president's proposal, they're all good cuts," budget analyst Tad DeHaven wrote on the Cato Institute's blog. "But the president detailed \$17 billion in cuts for one year and I generously called it 'measly.' What am I to call the House Republican leadership specifying \$5 billion a year in cuts?"

The answer, DeHaven concluded, is "not serious."

"Half-measures are not enough," he wrote, "and from the Republican House leadership, wholly insufficient for winning back the support of limited-government voters who have come to associate the GOP with runaway spending and debt."

House Minority Leader John Boehner was undeterred. "We hope the president will work with us to make the reforms outlined in this proposal as the first step in a serious bipartisan effort to crack down on unnecessary and duplicative spending by the federal government," he said.

Posted at 4:04 PM ET on Jun 4, 2009 | Category: [The Budget](#)

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I wouldn't waste my time reading it because i know everything they do is a dirty trick. Just like the economy and the dirty trick of the bail outs. They couldda threw him a grenade and it would of been about the same as Paulson and Bush's bailout plan.

12\$ an hour is good pay in America after the republican leadership is over. Who will ever afford a new car at that rate? We could of given them 5o billion and it wouldn't of mattered cause nobodies got the money to buy cars without good jobs. This party is nothing but criminal propoganders. Where was their plan 5 years ago? Instead all we got was lies and debt.

Posted by: kimkiminni1 | June 5, 2009 11:55 AM

It's been a couple of days since I have heard a good GOP joke. This is a good way to start the day. It just seems like every idea the GOP has now is a joke. Keep it up guys. Maybe you need to consult your writer, I think his name is Rush.

Posted by: racam | June 5, 2009 7:11 AM

Amazing that my party has come so lately to the idea of balancing the budget. And it seems strange they ATTEMPT it only now that they do not control the House or Senate. Seems like a silly way to try to make some political points that would have been worth something when they controlled the overspending congress a few years back. As it is, they have no credibility at all.

Posted by: mari2JJ | June 5, 2009 3:11 AM

So their entire plan is to tell the pentagon "don't spend so much for stuff".

OK

It is reminiscent of the cute little two page "budget" they proposed.

So what is it with these guys: incompetence or laziness?

Posted by: slr-me | June 4, 2009 4:43 PM

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