



Dear Senator:

On behalf of the American Conservative Union, I urge you to vote for the Coburn Amendment to H.R. 4213, the tax-extendors bill.

On February 12, with much fanfare, President Obama signed into law the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010. The ink was barely dry on the document before Congress began to pass bills without paying for them. When H.R. 4213 passes, the Senate will have added almost \$120 billion to the deficit in less than a month.

The Coburn Amendment would at least add transparency to the process by requiring the Senate post on its website the total spending approved this year that adds to the deficit and has not been paid for by an equal reduction in spending somewhere else.

In one year, Congress and the Obama Administration have increased the debt to our children and grandchildren from \$10.6 trillion to \$12.37 trillion or \$40,000 for every American citizen. To put it another way, the U.S. national debt increased more than \$4 billion every day in the past year.

If Congress cannot stop the spending, it at least owes the American people an honest accounting of what it is doing. Passing a meaningless "Pay-As-You-Go" bill and then continuing to add to the deficit only adds to the cynicism about Washington that has grown during the past year almost as fast as the deficit. The Baucus transparency amendment apparently drawn up as an alternative to the Coburn Amendment **does not require a tally of total spending exempted from Paygo and passed by the Senate to be posted** and adds no information not already posted online.

A vote against the Coburn Amendment is a vote to hide the fiscal irresponsibility of Congress and will render hollow any claim to fiscal responsibility by those who vote "No." Please support the Coburn transparency amendment to H.R. 4213, the Tax Extenders bill.

Sincerely,

Larry Hart
Director of Government Relations
The American Conservative Union