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Amendment – Would require all contracts, grants and cooperative agreements awarded under this act be competitively bid.

The federal government awards hundreds of billions of dollars annually in contracts and grants.

It has become a common practice for agencies and Congress to bypass the federal acquisitions process for competitively awarding contracts and grants.

To ensure that Members of Congress and the federal government are good stewards of American taxpayer dollars, this amendment would simply require that all grants and contracts awarded under this act follow the government's guidelines and be competitively bid

President Obama supports making Government Spending More Accountable and Efficient

President Obama has said that federal contracts over \$25,000 are to be competitively bid.¹

President Obama will increase the efficiency of government programs through better use of technology, stronger management that demands accountability and by leveraging the government's high-volume purchasing power to get lower prices.²

Contracts and Grants Awarded Under This Bill Should Not Be Exempt From Existing Laws Requiring Competition For Federal Grants And Contracts.

A “no-bid” grant or contract is government funding that is provided directly to an entity that bypasses the standard process for awarding government funding in which competing bids are solicited in order to select the most cost efficient and qualified entity to perform a service.

According to the most recently published Consolidated Federal Funds Report (CFFR), federal agencies award over \$880 billion in financial assistance alone: \$470 billion in grants, \$381 billion in contracts, and \$29 billion in direct loans.³

Specifically, the amendment calls for funds that result in contracts and grants awarded to come into compliance with the following laws:

- **Section 303 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949:** This section of law requires that competitive procedures be in place for all procurements unless there is a specific provision of law that makes an exemption. According to this

¹ <http://www.barackobama.com/issues/fiscal/>.

² <http://www.barackobama.com/issues/fiscal/>.

³ U.S. Census Bureau, *Consolidated Federal Funds Report for Fiscal Year 2005*, September 2007, p. v, at <http://www.census.gov/prod/2007pubs/cffr-05.pdf>.

section, such exceptions include: only one source is available, national security needs, and the requirements of an international treaty.

- **10 U.S. Code 2304:** This section requires that competitive procedures be used for all Defense contracts. The Department of Homeland Security often contracts for defense-related goods and services, for which the rules are in a different place in the U.S. Code. There is no substantive difference between the competition rules in place for defense and civilian contracts.

- **Federal Acquisition Regulation:** This is the 2,000-page regulatory guide for federal procurement that provides a detailed explanation of how to conduct “full and open competitions.” Such procedures include publishing acquisition opportunities on FedBizOpps.gov, mandatory evidence of appropriate market research by agencies, and promotion of competition among many sources.

Competition Reduces Costs and Saves Taxpayers’ Money

The competitive process helps ensure that the government receives the highest-quality products for the least amount of money. Without competition, earmarks and no-bid contracts have caused the American taxpayer to spend untold billions on wasteful purchases.

The Government Accountability Office has placed the Department of Defense contract management on its High-Risk List in part because of the increase in non-competitive contracting.

The tally for Hurricane Katrina waste has surpassed \$1 billion dollars because of lucrative government contracts awarded with little competition.⁴ “Several of the contracts were hastily given to politically connected firms in the aftermath of the 2005 storm and were extended without warning months later. Critics say the arrangements promote waste and unfairly hurt small companies.

According to a report issued by the Democrat staff of the House Government Reform Committee, The government awarded 70 percent of its contracts for Hurricane Katrina work without full competition.

The report found that out of \$10.6 billion in contracts awarded after the storm, more than \$7.4 billion were handed out with limited or no competitive bidding. In addition, 19 contracts worth \$8.75 billion were found to have wasted taxpayer money at least in part, costing taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars, according to the report.⁵

No-bid” Contracts and Grants have been on the rise

⁴ Hope Yen. “Katrina waste: \$1 billion just a beginning?; Auditors expect figure to balloon when no-bid contracts get scrutiny,” The Decatur Daily/Associated Press, December 26, 2006;

⁵ “Study: Millions wasted in Katrina contracts; 70% of contracts awarded without full bidding, Democratic report says,” MSNBC, August 24, 2006; <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/14502390/>.

A recent House congressional report estimated that federal spending on contracts awarded without "full and open" competition has tripled, to \$207 billion, since 2000.⁶

According to a House Committee on Government Reform report the number of contracts awarded without full competition at DHS increased 739 percent from 2003 to 2005, to \$5.5 billion, more than half of the \$10 billion in contracts awarded by the Department that year.⁷

For Fiscal Year 2009, Pre-Disaster Mitigation grants, a competitive grant program, contained 51 earmarks totaling just under \$25 million, or close to a third of the funds available for the PDM competitive grant program.

The Senate Has Supported Competition In The Past

In May 2006, the Senate voted 98 to zero to require that emergency hurricane relief and recovery contracts exceeding \$500,000 be subject to competitive procedures.⁸

Three other similar amendments regarding no bid contracts were agreed to by unanimous consent in the Senate.⁹

Byrne Program Talking Points

This bill authorizes \$546 million for Byrne JAG, \$178.5 million for Byrne Discretionary and \$30 million for Byrne Competitive Grants.

Byrne grants are contrary to the principle of federalism.

Byrne grants subsidize the everyday activities of local law enforcement, such as police officer salaries. These activities "assign to the federal government functions that fall

⁶ House Government reform Committee, "More Dollars, less Sense: Worsening Contracting Trends," June 2007, <http://oversight.house.gov/features/moredollars/moredollars.pdf>.

⁷ House Committee on Government Reform report: *Waste, Abuse, and Mismanagement in Department of Homeland Security Contracts*; July 2006, pg 3.

⁸ http://hsgac.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&Affiliation=r&PressRelease_id=%20494%20%20&Month=9&Year=2003

⁹ Senate Amendment 2605 to S. 2020, November 17, 2005, <http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/bdquery/D?d109:1:./temp/~bdAxyV:dbs=n:./billsumm/billsumm.php?id=2>; Senate Amendment 4254 to S.2766, June 16, 2006, <http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/bdquery/D?d109:6:./temp/~bdAxyV:dbs=n:./billsumm/billsumm.php?id=2>; Senate Amendment 4624 to H.R.5441, July 12, 2006, <http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/bdquery/D?d109:7:./temp/~bdAxyV:dbs=n:./billsumm/billsumm.php?id=2>

within the expertise, jurisdiction, and constitutional responsibilities of state and local governments.”¹⁰

The federal government has not traditionally funded state and local law enforcement.

“Originally, the federal government had no role in subsidizing the routine responsibilities of state and local law enforcement. Most if not all federal law enforcement grant programs run counter to the Founders’ vision for the federal government. In *The Federalist* No. 45, James Madison wrote:

- The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and define. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation, and foreign commerce: with which last the power of taxation will, for the most part, be connected. *The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all objects which, in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives, liberties, and properties of the people, and the internal order, improvement, and prosperity of the State.*

Law enforcement clearly falls within the category of “objects that concern the internal order, improvement and prosperity of the State”; thus, it is a principle responsibility of state and local governments.”¹¹

Federal funding should be spent on purposes that are truly interstate in nature, and then should be done with significant oversight and accountability to ensure both effective allocation of limited resources and the best crime prevention efforts.

Byrne Discretionary Grants have not been authorized since 2004.

Congress has continued to fund state and local law enforcement through discretionary funds via heavy earmarks within the CJS Appropriations legislation. As a result, these “grants” are technically EARMARKS despite its misleading title of “discretionary.”¹²

¹⁰ David Muhlhause, Heritage Foundation, “More Byrne JAG and COPS Money Will Not Stimulate the Economy,” January 28, 2009.

¹¹ David Muhlhause and Erica Little, Heritage Foundation, “Federal Law Enforcement Grants and Crime Rates: No Connection Except for Waste and Abuse,” March 14, 2007

¹² Congressional Research Service Expert Nathan James, Analyst in Crime Policy.

Byrne Competitive Grants are currently the only way Byrne funds are competitively awarded.

This program is an anomaly since it was only created in 2008 by the Appropriations Committee with no authorizing legislation.¹³

In FY2008 CJS Appropriations legislation, \$170,433,000 was appropriated for the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program \$187,513,000 for the Byrne Discretionary Grant program, and \$16,000,000 for the Byrne Competitive Grant program, for a total of \$373,946,000 for all "Byrne" programs. \$187,512,040 of the Byrne Discretionary Grant program was earmarked, meaning that 50.1% of the total funding for the "Byrne" programs was earmarked for this year.

¹³ *Id.*

Amendment XXXX – Provides funding for the enactment of the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Act program

Decades ago, an untold number of African Americans were murdered simply because they were black. These crimes were never solved or fully investigated. Time may have passed, but solving these crimes is imperative if past injustices are to be remedied and the integrity of guaranteed justice in America is to be ensured.

To help expedite the prosecution of these crimes, last year Congress passed and the President signed the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Act, which is now Public Law 110-334.

The bill authorized \$13.5 million annually from 2008 until 2017. But while members of Congress were quick to congratulate themselves and take credit for the passage of this bill, they have failed to fulfill the promises made by its passage. There was no funding provided for its enactment in 2008 and the omnibus spending bill before Congress now that would fund the government for 2009—while providing billions of dollars for lawmakers' own pet projects—once again leaves the Emmett Till bill unfunded.

This amendment would provide **\$25 million** to enact the Emmett Till bill and re-ignite the efforts to bring long overdue justice.

Despite Its Promises, Congress Funds Its Own Pet Projects Rather Than Efforts to Investigate Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes

In February 2006, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) enacted an initiative to investigate unsolved racially-motivated homicides. To support this effort, an amendment was offered to provide an additional \$1.68 million for the Department of Justice (DOJ), paid for by eliminating a handful of congressional earmarks. The Senate rejected that amendment by a vote of 31-61, with Senators choosing to protect their own parochial pet projects rather than ensuring justice for the victims of these ghastly crimes.

Last July, the Senate Leadership introduced S. 3297, which they called "The Advancing America's Priorities Act." Included in this package of priorities was the Emmett Till bill. While S. 3297 failed to be approved by the Senate, the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Act was passed as a standalone bill. The bill authorized \$63 million to assist the efforts to resolve unsolved decades old civil rights crimes once and for all.

At that time Senate leaders rejected a proposal to ensure funding for this program that would have redirected lower priority spending within DOJ to pay for the investigations to begin, claiming that funding would be provided in the Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations bill.

While Congress did not provide any funding for the Till bill in 2009, it did appropriate \$753 million for 1,540 earmarks within the Commerce/Justice/Science title of the omnibus.

Once again this year, Congress has failed to fulfill its promises and has prioritized funding of politicians' pet projects over providing the resources needed to enact the Emmett Till bill. There is funding for fairgrounds, swine odor management, biking trails, and other dubious activities listed in

this bill, but there is no mention or listing of funds for this bill that the Senate leadership touted as one of America's priorities just last year.

The FBI Has Identified 100 Unsolved Civil Rights Cases That Merit Further Investigation

In February 2006, the FBI enacted an initiative to identify hate crimes that occurred prior to December 1969, and resulted in death.¹⁴ Since the initiative began, the FBI has received nearly 100 referrals.

The FBI is continuing to assess each referral for its investigative and legal viability and, given the updated investigative and forensic tools, move forward in investigating these cases.¹⁵ The FBI can also now use forensic analysis and technology that did not exist 40 years ago to solve cases that once looked unsolvable.¹⁶

There have been several recent successful prosecutions of old civil rights cases: the 2001 conviction of Thomas Blanton and Bobby Frank Cherry for a 1963 church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama; the 2003 conviction of Ernest Avants for the 1966 murder of Ben Chester White; the 2005 conviction of Edgar Ray Killen for his role in the deaths of three civil rights workers in Mississippi in 1964; and the recent indictment of former Klansman James Ford Seale.¹⁷

¹⁴ "PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED WITH NAACP, THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, AND THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER," FBI release, February 27, 2007, <http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel07/coldcase022707.htm>

¹⁵ "FBI Announces Partnership in Reviewing Cold Cases," FBI release, February 27, 2007; <http://www.fbi.gov/page2/feb07/coldcase022707.htm>

¹⁶ "FBI Announces Partnership in Reviewing Cold Cases," FBI release, February 27, 2007; <http://www.fbi.gov/page2/feb07/coldcase022707.htm>

¹⁷ FBI press release, "PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED WITH NAACP, THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE, AND THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER," February 27, 2007, <http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel07/coldcase022707.htm>

But there have been fewer than two dozen convictions for an untold numbers of murders of blacks and their allies during the civil rights era. For the victims of these civil rights crimes, justice delayed is justice denied.

This Amendment Would Provide \$25 Million to Enact the Emmett Till Program to Investigate and Prosecute Unsolved Civil Rights Crimes

With the promising FBI investigative results of this new Civil Rights era initiative over the past couple years, it is highly probable that the prosecuting portion of these efforts at DOJ will see an influx of cases. But without the additional funding and resources for the DOJ Civil Rights Division could be helpful in bringing justice to those who committed ghastly civil rights crimes.

This amendment will provide \$25 million to enact the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Act so that more leads can be pursued, investigated, pursued, and ultimately closed with justice being brought to the perpetrators who have long eluded the law.

Time may have passed, but prosecuting those who committed these horrific crimes should be a priority of the Department of Justice until justice is rendered.

The Emmett Till Initiative Would Be Paid for with the Elimination of Weed & Seed, a Duplicate Program that has Failed to Demonstrate Effectiveness with Questionable Spending

The funding provided by this amendment to enact the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Act would result from the elimination of the Weed and Seed program at the Department of Justice.

Weed & Seed is a DOJ program that aims to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, drug abuse, and gang activity in neighborhoods across the country. The strategy involves a two-pronged approach: Law enforcement agencies and prosecutors cooperate in “weeding out” criminals and community-based organizations collaborate to “seed” prevention, intervention, and treatment services as well as neighborhood restoration programs.¹⁸ The omnibus appropriates \$25,000,000 for the program for Fiscal Year 2009.

Unproven Results, Inadequate Performance Measures, and Inconsistent Oversight

While Weed & Seed’s goals may be laudable, few studies are available to demonstrate the effectiveness of the program.

The Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB’s) Performance and Management Assessments of the Weed & Seed found that results are not demonstrated and the measures are inadequate for the program. According to OMB’s analysis, “The assessment indicates that many jurisdictions have actively sought DOJ’s assistance in developing local Weed and Seed strategies, but the large number of active projects has led to inconsistent oversight and results.”

¹⁸ “Weed & Seed,” U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Community Capacity Development Office website, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/ws/welcome.html>, accessed November 24, 2008.

OMB's review also found:

"1. While Weed and Seed had selected good performance objectives, such as lower homicide rates, it lacks the data to specify a 'baseline' against which improvements can be measured. Furthermore, DOJ has been averse to setting goals implying that any level of crime is 'successful.'

"2. Despite the program's 11-year history, only a limited number of Weed and Seed sites have been independently evaluated. Those results have been promising, but difficult to generalize given the wide variation in local strategies and effectiveness."¹⁹

According to Weed & Seed Data Center's website, which is funded by DOJ, there are "more than 300 Weed and Seed sites" in the U.S.²⁰ The site notes that "in order to comply with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), all federal agencies must collect program data, which can be used by Congress to evaluate the effectiveness of federal programs.

On this site you will find Weed and Seed communities' latest GPRA reports" as well as "various reports including evaluations of individual Weed and Seed efforts."²¹ Yet, very few recent studies are available. In fact, no

¹⁹ "Performance And Management Assessments," Office of Management and Budget,

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2004/pma/weedandseed.pdf> .

²⁰ "The Weed & Seed Strategy," Weed and Seed Data Center website, sponsored by the Community Capacity Development Office, U.S. Department of Justice, accessed October 26, 2008,

<http://www.weedandseed.info/docs/strategy.htm> .

²¹ Weed and Seed Data Center website, sponsored by the Community Capacity Development Office, U.S. Department of Justice,

accessed October 26, 2008, <http://www.weedandseed.info/> .

nationally initiated studies on the program that have been conducted since August 1999, nearly a decade ago, have been made available²² and only six locally initiated studies of Weed and Seed communities conducted since 2001 are available.²³

Funding Questionable Projects

A review of recent Weed & Seed initiatives reveals that federal funds have been spent on questionable activities that on the surface appear to have little to do with supporting law enforcement priorities or crime prevention.

- In the current fiscal year, the Weed & Seed program of Española, New Mexico, is eligible for \$200,000 in federal funds. The city has received \$600,000 in Weed & Seed grants since 2005, but has released no data in the last three years to show whether its initiatives have reduced crime. “The program struggled in its early years to actually spend that money, and what was spent went to program overhead,”²⁴ according to *The Rio Grande Sun* which has concluded that the city’s Weed & Seed has “a blank slate of accomplishments following a \$600,000 spending binge.”²⁵ The paper also reported that “the Española Weed and Seed program spent \$20,000 last year to commission an evaluation that has provided very little new

²² “Nationally Initiated Studies,” Weed and Seed Data Center website, sponsored by the Community Capacity Development

Office, U.S. Department of Justice, accessed October 26, 2008, <http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/docs/studiesnational.htm> .

²³ “Locally Initiated Studies,” Weed and Seed Data Center website, sponsored by the Community Capacity Development Office,

U.S. Department of Justice, accessed October 26, 2008, <http://www.weedandseed.info/docs/studies-local.htm> .

²⁴ Sarah Welsh. “Weed/Seed Program Spends \$20,000 on Seven Pages,” Rio Grande Sun, February 5, 2009.

²⁵ R. Braiden Trapp. “A \$20,000 Survey...Why? Española's Weed and Seed program thought it a good idea to spend \$20,000 on a seven-page report,” Rio Grande Sun, February 6, 2009.

information, analysis or measures of program outcomes. The evaluation is being conducted by the Taos-based I2I Institute, which billed Weed and Seed last fall for a total of 40 days of work, at \$500 per day. The result, so far, has been two slim reports totaling seven pages, which is the equivalent of \$2,857.14 per page. The primary report summarizes Weed and Seed activities through June 2008 and says it is focused on process, not outcomes.”²⁶

- A shortage of police tickets in Indianapolis, Indiana, left law enforcement officers “scrounging to find enough paper tickets” to write traffic citations. “Marion County’s 32 law enforcement agencies are all counting their paper tickets as the year comes to a close, but Indianapolis police officers are almost completely out of the essential item,” 6 News reported.²⁷ When the city received a \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Weed & Seed program in October 2007, the city decided to spend some of the money issuing tickets, not for traffic infractions but for motorists who leave valuables inside their vehicles. Northwest District Major Paul Ciesielski said “we put warning tickets on windshields where our officers noticed that was the case. It’s not a fine. The ticket has a Weed & Seed logo and some advice.”²⁸ The city also spent \$175,000 used the federal funds to pay for two indoor soccer programs. Scott Rosenberger, the local Weed & Seed site coordinator, hopes to continue the soccer programs next year, but he said new ideas are needed for how the federal money should be spent because “after the excitement of getting the grant last year, interest kind of trailed off.”²⁹

²⁶ Sarah Welsh. “Weed/Seed Program Spends \$20,000 on Seven Pages,” Rio Grande Sun, February 5, 2009.

²⁷ Jack Rinehart. “Indianapolis Police Running Low On Paper Tickets Next Shipment Won’t Arrive Until December,” TheIndyChannel.com 6 News, November 18, 2008, <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/18011005/detail.html>.

²⁸ John Tuohy. “Northwestside leaders seek input on fighting crime with \$150,000 in federal funds,” The Indianapolis Star, November 8, 2008

<http://www.indystar.com/article/20081108/LOCAL1802/811080365/1195/LOCAL18>.

²⁹ John Tuohy. “Eagledale neighborhood seeks ideas for fighting crime,” Indianapolis Star, October 17, 2008; <http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081017/LOCAL1802/810170507/1195/LOCAL18>

- In October 2008, the West Asheville District Weed & Seed Grant in North Carolina sponsored a “Shred-a-thon,” where locals were invited to bring up to one box load of outdated personal papers to be transformed into mulch for the Community Peace Garden.³⁰
- Last month, the Youngstown, Ohio, Northside Weed and Seed sponsored a fair that included a doughnut-eating contest for city police.³¹
- Last summer Youngstown’s Northside Weed & Seed also offered lawn mower maintenance sessions for local youths. With this program, Rick George, the local administrator of the grant, hopes to give area youth the knowledge and tools to start cutting grass as a job and as a way to clean up their neighborhood.³² He said only eight to 10 youngsters showed an interest in the mowing program, but the mowers arrived too late in the summer to hold the training before school started. Although the grant year expired in December, all the money wasn’t spent, so an extension was obtained that allows funds to be spent through May with the lawn mower training expected to take place in late Spring.³³
- As part of the Weed & Seed project of Allentown, Pennsylvania, “government grant money has been provided to a hip-hop class to offer lessons to youth,” according to the *Baltimore Sun*. The program was started in 2006 and currently 30 youth meet regularly every week to practice their hip-hop dancing skills.³⁴

³⁰ Leslie Boyd. “Fight identity theft: Shred old documents for free,” Asheville Citizen-Times, October 22, 2008; <http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008810220308> .

³¹ “Criminal Justice Fair planned for Saturday,” Youngstown Vindicator, February 17, 2009.

³² “Weed and Seed seeks lawnmowers for Youngstown youth,” The Vindicator, June 21, 2008; <http://www.vindy.com/news/2008/jun/21/weed-and-seed-seeks-lawnmowers-for-youngstown/?newswatch> .

³³ Patricia Meade. “Raring to Mow,” The Vindicator, January 12, 2009; <http://www.vindy.com/news/2009/jan/12/raring-to-mow/> .

³⁴ Elizabeth Eckley, M.A., et. al. “The City of Allentown Weed and Seed Initiative: Evaluation 2008,” Lehigh Valley Research Consortium, page 13; http://lehighvalleyresearch.org/files/articles/Allentown_Weed&Seed_Final_Report.pdf .

- In Modesto, California, the Paradise South Weed & Seed Project presented a break dance competition³⁵ and offered Hip-Hop/Modern Jazz dance classes. “The Hip-Hop and Modern Jazz dance class will focus on the fundamentals of contemporary dance techniques, including stretching, center floor techniques, movement across the floor, progressions and dance routines,” according to the city.³⁶
- A Weed & Seed grant paid to send 100 sixth-graders from Philadelphia, California, to camp this past summer. “At night, students sang songs around the campfire and slept in tents. During the day they learned about wildlife, explored a creek for living organisms and even caught a glimpse of a sleeping bear,” according to a local press report. Assistant Principal Laura Solis said because the school is working on improving its students’ academic performance, a great deal of time is focused on academics and little time or school resources are available for this type of experience.”³⁷
- The Weed & Seed program of Las Cruces, New Mexico, hosted a Talent Show in March 2008.³⁸
- The Weed & Seed program in Huntington, West Virginia, is in discussions to develop a “garden space/beautification effort” along a local boulevard.³⁹

³⁵ The city of Modesto news release. “‘MIX AT 615’ PRESENTS BREAK DANCE COMPETITION,” May 8, 2008; <http://www.modestocalifornia.us/cmo/releases/2008/nr08133.asp> .

³⁶The city of Modesto news release. “FREE DANCE CLASSES AT MADDUX YOUTH CENTER,” May 28, 2008; <http://www.modestorda.net/cmo/releases/2008/nr08158.asp> .

³⁷ Monica Rodriguez. “Camp Trask up to the task; Philadelphia Elementary students study wildlife,” The Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, June 9, 2008; http://www.dailybulletin.com/ci_9535198 .

³⁸ “Weed & Seed to Host Talent Show,” City of Las Cruces, March 13, 2008; http://www.las-cruces.org/police/news/news_item.asp?NewsID=566 .

“Weed & Seed digging up local talent,” Las Cruces Sun-News, March 14, 2008.

³⁹ C. Richard Cobb, Sr. “Create Huntington - The Community in Action!,” Huntington Herald Dispatch, February 25, 2009; <http://media.herald-dispatch.com/blog/cobb/2009/02/create-huntington-community-in-action.html> .

While many of these events may have been fun or even educational recreational events for children, adolescents and teenagers, it is difficult to demonstrate how these activities may have impacted crime or advanced the mission of the Department of Justice.

Duplicative of Other Federal Grant Programs

Other Weed & Seed activities may serve useful purposes, but all of those initiatives are eligible for funding from other federal grant programs, including:

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant and Byrne Discretionary Grant — The Weed & Seed program duplicates Byrne/JAG's grant purposes: (1) multi-jurisdictional task forces to integrate federal, state and local law enforcement efforts; (2) educational prevention programs; (3) community policing; and (4) drug treatment programs. In addition, the new Byrne Competitive Grant, like Weed & Seed, may also be used for overtime pay to personnel.

Community Oriented Policing Services — Like Weed & Seed, COPS grants fund (1) hiring, training, and paying overtime for police officers, (2) community policing, and (3) linking community organizations and residents with local law enforcement.

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) — Like Weed & Seed, the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) CDBG program funds neighborhood restoration projects.

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) – Like Weed & Seed, CSAT provides grants for drug treatment programs. CSAT is part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Misuse of Federal Funds

A number of Weed & Seed programs have come under investigation for misusing federal funds.

- Federal investigators subpoenaed police grant records from Methuen, Massachusetts, when investigators determined the local police lacked supporting payroll documents for three years of a Weed & Seed grant. According to a letter sent to the city, the DOJ's Office of the Inspector General found "numerous instances where there were no supporting records documenting the hours reportedly worked by some Methuen Police Department employees."⁴⁰ After it was discovered that the local police chief authorized an assistant to "triple-dip" by receiving two sets of federal overtime funds on top of her salary, federal officials demanded that Methuen, Massachusetts return \$170,000 of "Weed and Seed" grant money.⁴¹ A report found

⁴⁰Stephanie Chelf. "Feds: How did some cops earn \$170k? More Methuen police payroll records demanded," Eagle-Tribune, June 4, 2007; http://www.eagletribune.com/permalink/local_story_155093830 .

⁴¹Kytja Weir. "Methuen police chief fired; mayor says it's time to 'move on,'" The Boston Globe, May 7, 2008; http://www.boston.com/news/local/breaking_news/2008/05/methuen_police_1.html .

that it is impossible to tell how much the police chief, his secretary, and four superior officers actually worked the hours they were paid for out of a \$1.125 million federal Weed & Seed grant.⁴²

- In Lawton, Oklahoma, the director of a Weed & Seed program was found guilty for stealing the program's money by diverting funds through a nonprofit organization and then using the money for personal expenses on the nonprofit's credit card.⁴³
- The Weed & Seed program in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, "is trying to recover from rampant staff churn, resolve accounting disputes with federal overseers, reconnect with neighborhood leaders and pinpoint dozens of unaccounted for computers and printers," according to the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Department of Justice accountants sent a six page letter to Mayor Luke Ravenstahl in November 2006 indicating that Pittsburgh had not kept track of time staff spent on Weed and Seed, failed at "monitoring of equipment and inventory procedures," and used \$31,145 that was not authorized on TV ads, computers and other expenses." Among the items purchased were at least 18 laptop computers, 25 desktop computers with flat panel monitors, 17 printers including one costing \$3,071, a \$5,000 network server, 20 DVD movie writers for \$696 each, 11 digital projectors, digital cameras and much more. City officials could not find at least \$55,350 in electronic equipment, including six laptop computers, 10 notebook computers, four handheld computers, 10 digital projectors, 10 digital cameras, 14 printers, and one flatpanel monitor. At one point, the Weed and Seed office was stacked floor-to-ceiling with computers, and no one knew where they were supposed to go and since late 2005, 10 people have held the three mayor's office posts dedicated to the Weed & Seed program. That turnover "has

⁴² Jill Harmacinski. "Drugs, weapons, evidence found in Solomon's locker," The Eagle-Tribune, May 13, 2008.

⁴³"Former Justice Department program leader gets prison term," The Associated Press, June 20, 2008;

substantially impacted the continuity of our program,” said U.S. Attorney Mary Beth Buchanan, whose office oversees the effort.⁴⁴

- The Weed & Seed program in Easton, Pennsylvania, has faced a series of problems. A state audit questioned some of the program’s expenses. The state ruled that the city had double-billed some office expenses and the city eventually returned about \$32,000 to the state. In addition, the Easton Economic Development Corp., the nonprofit agency that had been in charge of Weed & Seed for a time, returned another \$22,000 to the state. The county is seeking to recoup another \$1,200 that auditors identified as being improperly spent on telephone, office supply, copy and postage expenses. A portion of its grant was approved to be spent to improve a neighborhood park and pay for consultants.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Rich Lord. “CITY TRYING TO REVIVE CHAOTIC WEED AND SEED EFFORT,” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, page A1, August 13, 2007.

⁴⁵ Paul Muschick. “Auditors: Money for Weed, Seed properly spent; Since probe, Easton has used county grant to improve park,” Morning Call, January 31, 2005.

Direct Methanol Fuel Cell research: \$951,500 (Rep. Visclosky)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$951,500 earmark for “Direct Methanol Fuel Cell Research” (DMFC). According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is NuVant Systems, Inc., located in Crown Point, Indiana. The funding would be used for computational fluid dynamics modeling to help develop more efficient, low-cost flow field structures.”⁴⁶

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$951,500 earmark for Direct Methanol Fuel Cell Research.

Since 2002, NuVant Systems Inc. Has Received More Than \$2 Million In Federal Funds

NuVant Systems Inc works to advance fuel cell technology.

According to Fedspending.org, NuVant Systems Inc. received \$1,799,100 in federal funds in 2006. According to a 2007 NuVant press release, the company has been awarded an extension on a government research contract. The press release states, “The agency's amendment to the contract to \$2.61 million will fund NuVant Systems' continuing research and development of direct methanol fuel cells.”⁴⁷ Additionally, the company received \$200,000 in federal funds from the Department of Defense for research and development in 2002.⁴⁸

While the company's goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every

⁴⁶ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters
http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁴⁷ NuVant Press Release. February 6, 2007 <http://www.nuvant.com/news/press01.html>

⁴⁸ Contracts to Contractor(s) "NuVant Systems, Inc"(FY 2000-2008)

http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?company_name=NuVant+Systems%2C+Inc&sortby=r&detail=0&dtype=T&reptype=r&database=fpds&fiscal_year=&submit=GO

year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

In 2005, the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, held a hearing titled “An Assessment of Federal Funding for Private Research and Development.”

In Senator Coburn’s submitted statement he said the following, “Last year (2004), venture capitalists invested over \$20 billion into various projects in the U.S. economy. Industries including biotechnology, telecommunications, and health care services received hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in funding from private investors. All of that venture capital funding also doesn’t even take into account the massive amount of money spent each year on research and development, or R&D, by publicly-traded American companies. Just to give a few examples, IBM in 2004 spent more than \$5 billion on R&D, while Motorola spent more than \$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace.”⁴⁹

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation(NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

PMA:

NuVant paid PMA \$80,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Visclosky \$271,500 in campaign contribution since 1989.

According to Harper’s Magazine, “One PMA employee worth noting is Richard Kaelin, Visclosky’s former chief of staff. He directly represents ProLogic and Nuvant, another firm that has offices at the Purdue

⁴⁹ Chairman’s Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

Technology Center. Kaelin's [biography](#) says that while working for the congressman, he developed "long-term planning and strategy" for the appropriations process and fund-raising. Translated, this suggests that he's an expert in the high art of the political payoff."⁵⁰

⁵⁰ Harper's Magazine. April 26, 2006. <http://www.harpers.org/archive/2006/04/sb-inappropriate-appropriations>

Solar Energy Windows and IR Switchable Technology Adaptive Liquid Crystal: \$1,189,375 (Rep. Altmire; Rep. Doyle; Senator Specter)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$1,189,375 earmark for “Solar Energy Windows and IR Switchable Technology Adaptive Liquid Crystal.” According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is PPG, Inc., located in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The funding would be used to explore the best paths to integrate its expertise in deposition technology for development and large scale manufacturing of thin film solar cell technology.”⁵¹

Additionally, according to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is PPG industries, Allison Park, Pennsylvania. The funding would be used for the development of breakthrough technology to enable smart coatings to react to temperature change, to absorb or repel heat as needed, and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings.”⁵² This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$1,189,375 earmark for Solar Energy Windows and IR Switchable Technology Adaptive Liquid Crystal.

Between FY 2000-2008, PPG Received \$160,711,607 In Federal Funds From 23,502 Transactions.

⁵¹ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters
http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁵² 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters
http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

According to Yahoo finance, “The company offers coating products for automotive and commercial transport/fleet repair and refurbishing, specialty coatings for signs, and light industrial coatings; and sealants, coatings, and technical cleaners/transparencies for commercial, military, regional jet, and general aviation aircraft and transparent armor for military land vehicles.”⁵³

According to Fedspending.org, between FY 2000-2008, [PPG received](#) \$160,711,607 in federal funds from 23,502 transactions.⁵⁴

Top 5 Products or Services Sold	Federal Funding Received
Airframe Structural Components	\$94,554,195
Preservative and Sealing Compounds	\$28,578,464
Miscellaneous Aircraft Accessories and Components	\$8,391,102
Paints, Dopes, Varnishes, and Related Products	\$8,049,316
Defense Aircraft -- Advanced Development (R&D)	\$6,649,231

Top 5 Contracting Agencies Purchasing from Contractor(s)

Defense Logistics Agency	\$94,815,428
Federal Supply Service	\$32,110,119
AIR FORCE, Department of the	\$17,699,253

⁵³ Yahoo finance. PPG Profile <http://finance.yahoo.com/q/pr?s=PPG>

⁵⁴ Contracts to Contractor(s) "PPG Inc"(FY 2000-2008)
http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?parent_id=251311&sortby=u&detail=-1&datatype=T&reptype=r&database=fpds&fiscal_year=&submit=GO

(Headquarters, USAF)	
ARMY, Department of the (except Corps of Engineers Civil Program Financing)	\$8,550,252
NAVY, Department of the	\$5,336,625

In 2008 PPG Inc. Had Over \$15 Billion In Total Revenue

In 2008, according to Yahoo finance, PPG Inc. had total revenue of \$15,849,000,000.⁵⁵

While the company's goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

In 2005, the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, held a hearing titled "An Assessment of Federal Funding for Private Research and Development."

In Senator Coburn's submitted statement he said the following, "Last year (2004), venture capitalists invested over \$20 billion into various projects in the U.S. economy. Industries including biotechnology, telecommunications, and health care services received hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in funding from private investors. All of that venture capital funding also doesn't even take into account the massive amount of money spent each year on research and development, or R&D, by publicly-traded American companies. Just to give a few examples, IBM in 2004 spent more than \$5 billion on R&D, while Motorola spent more than

⁵⁵ Yahoo finance. PPG income statement December, 31, 2008. <http://finance.yahoo.com/q/is?s=PPG&annual>

\$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace.”⁵⁶

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation(NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

PPG Is Having Pension Problems And Are Having To Cut Jobs Due To The Recession

According to a recent article in the *Pittsburg Tribune Review*, “PPG, the world's second-biggest paint maker, said Thursday that its pension plans were underfunded by \$1.26 billion at year end, compared with about \$342 million at the end of 2007.”⁵⁷

Additionally, *Money Morning* reported on possible jobs cuts at PPG. *The article stated*, “PPG Industries Inc. ([PPG](#)), the world's second-biggest paint maker, said last month that it could cut as many as 4,500 jobs due to weak global demand from automakers and homebuilders. The regions outside of North America, which had been really helping PPG in the first three quarters of last year, have sort of caught the disease that started here in the U.S. with the credit crisis, Chief Executive Officer Charles E. Bunch said Jan. 27 in an interview.”⁵⁸

While it is unfortunate PPG is having difficulties during the recession, they are the world's second-biggest paint maker and should be able to make adjustments to cope with the recession. Giving them millions of dollars in federal funding will not bring back those jobs

PMA:

⁵⁶ Chairman's Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

⁵⁷ *Pittsburg-Tribune Review*. Market clobbers Alcoa, PPG pension plans. February 20, 2009 <http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/>

⁵⁸ *Money Morning* <http://www.moneymorning.com/2009/02/11/us-trade-deficit-2/>

PPG paid PMA \$440,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Altmire \$32,250 in campaign contribution since 1989.

PMA has given Rep. Doyle \$91,900 in campaign contribution since 1989.

PMA has given Senator Specter \$20,450 in campaign contribution since 1989.

Adaptive Liquid Crystal Windows: \$951,000 (Rep. Ryan)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$951,500 earmark for “Adaptive Liquid Crystal Windows”. According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is Alpha Micron, Inc., located in Kent, Ohio. The funding would be used for research and development of liquid crystal technology to reduce energy and utility consumption.”⁵⁹

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$951,000 earmark for adaptive liquid crystal windows research and development.

Between FY 2000-2008, Alpha Micron Inc Has Received \$450,000 In Federal Funds

According to a Kent State press release, “Alpha Micron produces high-tech consumer products containing advanced liquid crystal applications such as liquid crystal-infused motorcycle helmet visors and sunglasses.”⁶⁰

According to Fedspending.org, between FY 2000-2008, Alpha Micron Inc received the following amount in federal funds:

FY2003= \$100,000

FY2001 = \$100,000

FY2000 = \$ 250,000⁶¹

⁵⁹ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters

http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁶⁰ Kent State Press Release. <http://einside.kent.edu/?type=art&id=90946>

While the company's goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

In 2005, the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, held a hearing titled "An Assessment of Federal Funding for Private Research and Development."

In Senator Coburn's submitted statement he said the following, "Last year (2004), venture capitalists invested over \$20 billion into various projects in the U.S. economy. Industries including biotechnology, telecommunications, and health care services received hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in funding from private investors. All of that venture capital funding also doesn't even take into account the massive amount of money spent each year on research and development, or R&D, by publicly-traded American companies. Just to give a few examples, IBM in 2004 spent more than \$5 billion on R&D, while Motorola spent more than \$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace."⁶²

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

PMA:

⁶¹ Contracts to Contractor(s) "Alpha Micron"(FY 2000-2008)

http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?fiscal_year=&company_name=Alpha+Micron&sortby=u&datatype=T&eptype=r&database=fpds&detail=0&submit=GO

⁶² Chairman's Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

Alpha Micron paid PMA \$140,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Ryan \$64,250 in campaign contribution since 1989.

Anti-idling Lithium Ion Battery Program: \$951,400 (Rep. Sherman)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$951,400 earmark for “Anti-idling Lithium Ion Battery Program.” According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is Quallion, located at Sylmar, California. The funding would be used for transitioning a fundamentally safe technology to a manufacturing setting that will allow for qualification of the batteries and cost effective production of the battery units.”⁶³

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$951,400 earmark for anti-idling lithium ion battery program.

Between FY 2000-2008, Quallion Has Received \$ \$7,752,914 In Federal Funds

According Quallion’s website, “Quallion has been researching lithium ion batteries for over 30 years and is acknowledged worldwide as one of the leading experts on lithium ion battery technology.”⁶⁴

According to Fedspending.org, between FY 2000-2008, Quallion received the following amount in federal funds:

FY2007 = \$2,112,521

FY2006 = \$1,798,446

FY2005 = \$1,410,414

FY2004 = \$1,250,000

FY2003 = \$1,181,533⁶⁵

While the company’s goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National

⁶³ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters

http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁶⁴ Quallion website. <http://www.quallion.com/sub-c-competitive.asp>

⁶⁵ Contracts to Contractor(s) "Quallion"(FY 2000-2008)

http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?company_name=Quallion&sortby=r&detail=0&datatype=T&reptype=r&database=fpds&fiscal_year=&submit=GO

Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

In 2005, the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, held a hearing titled “An Assessment of Federal Funding for Private Research and Development.”

In Senator Coburn’s submitted statement he said the following, “Last year (2004), venture capitalists invested over \$20 billion into various projects in the U.S. economy. Industries including biotechnology, telecommunications, and health care services received hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in funding from private investors. All of that venture capital funding also doesn’t even take into account the massive amount of money spent each year on research and development, or R&D, by publicly-traded American companies. Just to give a few examples, IBM in 2004 spent more than \$5 billion on R&D, while Motorola spent more than \$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace.”⁶⁶

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation(NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

Rep. Sherman Argues That His Earmark Will Help Soldiers

Rep. Sherman defended his earmark for Quallion in a recent *Hill* article, “But Rep. Brad Sherman (D-Calif.) requested nearly \$1 million in the omnibus for Quallion, a company in his district that was a PMA client as of late last year. He said he would have done so regardless of the company’s affiliation with PMA because he believes it has a good product. The \$1

⁶⁶ Chairman’s Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

million in the bill was directed to an “anti-idling lithium ion battery program,” according to language in the bill. herman argues that the program is aimed at finding new energy sources for soldiers in the field who want to be able to charge electronic devices from their cars without the engine running, a way for them to remain wired while staying covert.”⁶⁷

While this is a worthy goal, Quallion is a private company with a substantial amount of financial resources available to pay for their research.

PMA:

Quallion paid PMA \$160,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Sherman \$15,500 in campaign contribution since 1989.

⁶⁷Rep. Flake targets earmarks amidst PMA controversy. *Hill*. February 24, 2009 <http://thehill.com/leading-the-news/rep.-flake-targets-earmarks-amidst-pma-controversy-2009-02-24.html>

Advanced Engineering Environment Sandia National Lab: \$1,427,250 (Rep. Lynch)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$1,427,250 earmark for “Advanced Engineering Environment for Sandia National Lab.” According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is Parametric Technology Corporation, located Needham, Massachusetts. The funding would be used for the continued development and deployment of a comprehensive design environment, and will allow all DOE Labs involved in the Model Based Environment to collaborate and manage these programs effectively.”⁶⁸

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$1,427,250 earmark for Sandia National Lab.

Between FY 2000-2008, Parametric Technology Corporation (PTC) Has Received \$52,950,253 In Federal Funds

According to Yahoo finance, “Parametric Technology Corporation develops, markets, and supports product lifecycle management (PLM) software solutions and related services enabling companies that enhance their product development processes.”⁶⁹

According to Fedspending.org, between FY 2000-2008, PTC received the following the amount in federal funds:

FY2008 1Q = \$1,872,027

FY2007 = \$12,237,003

FY2006 = \$5,081,439

FY2005 = \$12,007,391

FY2004 = \$6,198,199

FY2003 = \$5,911,789

⁶⁸ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters
http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁶⁹ Yahoo Finance. Profile PMTC. <http://finance.yahoo.com/g/pr?s=PMTC>

FY2002 = \$4,381,942

FY2001= \$2,988,123

FY2000 = \$2,272,340⁷⁰

In 2008 Parametric Technology Corporation (PTC) Had Over \$1 Billion In Total Revenue

In 2008, according to Yahoo finance, PTC. had total revenue of \$1,070,330,000.⁷¹

While the company's goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

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⁷⁰ Contracts to Contractor(s) "Parametric Technology Corp"(FY 2000-2008)
http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?&company_name=Parametric%20Technology%20Corp&record_num=f500&detail=0&datatype=T&reptype=r&database=fpds&sortby=f

⁷¹ Yahoo Finance. Parametric Technology Corporation. September 30,2008. Income Statement.
<http://finance.yahoo.com/q/is?s=PMTC&annual>

\$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace.”⁷²

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation(NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

PMA:

Parametric Technology Corporation paid PMA \$440,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Lynch \$19,000 in campaign contribution since 1989.

⁷² Chairman’s Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

**Multi-Disciplined Integrated Collaborative Environment (MDICE)
Kansas City Plant (KCP): \$951,500 (Rep. Cleaver)**

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$951,500 earmark for “Multi-Disciplined Integrated Collaborative Environment (MDICE) Kansas City Plant (KCP).” According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is Parametric Technology Corporation, located Needham, Massachusetts.”⁷³

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$951,500 earmark for Multi-Disciplined Integrated Collaborative Environment (MDICE) Kansas City Plant (KCP).

Between FY 2000-2008, Parametric Technology Corporation (PTC) Has Received \$52,950,253 In Federal Funds

According to Yahoo finance, “Parametric Technology Corporation develops, markets, and supports product lifecycle management (PLM) software solutions and related services enabling companies that enhance their product development processes.”⁷⁴

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FY2006 = \$5,081,439

FY2005 = \$12,007,391

FY2004 = \$6,198,199

FY2003 = \$5,911,789

FY2002 = \$4,381,942

FY2001= \$2,988,123

⁷³ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters
http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁷⁴ Yahoo Finance. Profile PMTC. <http://finance.yahoo.com/g/pr?s=PMTC>

FY2000 = \$2,272,340⁷⁵

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⁷⁵ Contracts to Contractor(s) "Parametric Technology Corp"(FY 2000-2008)

http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?&company_name=Parametric%20Technology%20Corp&record_num=f500&detail=0&datatype=T&reptype=r&database=fpds&sortby=f

⁷⁶ Yahoo Finance. Parametric Technology Corporation. September 30,2008. Income Statement.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/q/is?s=PMTTC&annual>

⁷⁷ Chairman's Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

PMA:

Parametric Technology Corporation paid PMA \$440,000 for their lobbying services.

Hydrogen Optical Fiber Sensors: \$951,500 (Rep. Harman)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$951,500 earmark for “hydrogen optical fiber sensors.” According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is Intelligent Optical Systems, Inc, located at Torrance, CA. The funding would be used for development of a hydrogen sensor suite that will insure the safety of the high-pressure hydrogen storage facilities.”⁷⁸

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$951,500 earmark for hydrogen optical fiber sensors.

Between FY 2000-2008, Intelligent Optical Systems Has Received \$17,609,709 In Federal Funds

According to Intelligent Optical Systems website, “IOS’ is a leading-edge technology development company with expertise in physics, chemistry, biology, optoelectronics, and computer science.”⁷⁹

According to Fedspending.org, between FY 2000-2008, Intelligent Optical Systems received the following amount in federal funds:

FY2008 1Q = \$413,520

FY2007 = \$2,692,218

FY2006 = \$3,381,588

FY2005 = \$2,028,737

FY2004 = \$2,246,945

FY2003 = \$1,319,779

FY2002 = \$2,000,644

FY2001 = \$2,215,507

FY2000 = \$1,311,041⁸⁰

⁷⁸ 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters

http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁷⁹ Intelligent Optical Systems website <http://www.intopsys.com/index.html>

While the company's goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

In 2005, the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, held a hearing titled "An Assessment of Federal Funding for Private Research and Development."

In Senator Coburn's submitted statement he said the following, "Last year (2004), venture capitalists invested over \$20 billion into various projects in the U.S. economy. Industries including biotechnology, telecommunications, and health care services received hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in funding from private investors. All of that venture capital funding also doesn't even take into account the massive amount of money spent each year on research and development, or R&D, by publicly-traded American companies. Just to give a few examples, IBM in 2004 spent more than \$5 billion on R&D, while Motorola spent more than \$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace."⁸¹

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

⁸⁰ Contracts to Contractor(s) "Intelligent Optical Systems"(FY 2000-2008)
http://www.fedspending.org/fpds/fpds.php?company_name=Intelligent+Optical+Systems&sortby=r&detail=0&datatype=T&reptype=r&database=fpds&fiscal_year=&submit=GO

⁸¹ Chairman's Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

PMA:

Intelligent Optical Systems, Inc paid PMA \$120,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Harman \$12,500 in campaign contribution since 1989.

Flexible Thin-Film Silicon Solar Cells: \$1,189,375 (Rep. Kaptur; Senator Voinovich; Senator Brown)

The FY2009 omnibus provides a \$1,189,375 earmark to develop “thin-film silicon solar cells.” According to a 2009 earmark certification letter submitted to the House Appropriations Committee, “The entity to receive funding for this project is Xunlight Corporation, located in Toledo, Ohio.”⁸²

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$1,189,375 earmark for develop thin-film silicon solar cells.

Xunlight Corporation Is Receiving Millions In Federal Funds For “Ongoing Corporation Product Development”

According to the company’s website, “Xunlight Corporation engages in the development, manufacture, and marketing of photovoltaic modules that convert sunlight into electricity.”⁸³

⁸² 2009 Energy and Water Development Earmark Certification Letters
http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/FY2009_EW_Certs.pdf

⁸³ Xunlight website. <http://www.xunlight.com/company.shtml>

Below is information from Xunlight's website describing the different types of funding they receive from the federal government.⁸⁴

R&D Grants in Support of Xunlight Corporation Product Development

Ongoing grant funded projects currently at Xunlight Corporation (total funding: \$3.6 million)

- \$2,921,501, from US Department of Energy (DOE), to develop photovoltaic hydrogen generation (SHG) systems (Principal Investigator: Dr. Liwei Xu) (See photo below)
- \$325,000, from EMTEC/DOE, to develop and improve manufacturing process for photovoltaic hydrogen generation systems (PI: Dr. Xu)
- \$283,000, from NREL/UT, to develop photovoltaic testing system (PI: Dr. Aarohi Vijh)
- \$99,450+\$746,325, from DOE SBIR program, to develop lightweight/flexible solar cells (PI: Dr. Aarohi Vijh)
- \$1,990,502, from the NIST ATP program, to develop a novel deposition process for the deposition of high-quality thin-film silicon (PI: Dr. Deng)

Ongoing grant funded projects in Dr. Deng's lab at UT, in direct support of Xunlight Corporation technology development activities (total funding: \$6.2 million)

- \$1,183,000, from National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL), to develop high-efficiency a-Si based solar cells (\$283K to Xunlight Corporation). (PI: Dr. Deng)
 - \$2,000,000 plus \$99,920, from Ohio Department of Development, to build a large-area solar cell fabrication machine (PI: Dr. A. Compaan and Dr. Deng). (See photo with then Governor Bob Taft below)
 - \$1,647,000, from Air Force Research Lab (Kirtland AFB), to develop flexible and lightweight solar cells (PI: Dr. A. Compaan and Dr. Deng)
 - \$992,000, from DOE, to develop solar hydrogen generation systems (PI: Dr. Deng)
 - \$283,000 from US Army, to develop solar panels and hydrogen generation systems (Co-PI: Dr. Deng)
-

While the company's goals for research and development may be laudable, the federal government should not subsidize private companies to conduct research year after year. Numerous federal agencies, such as the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Science and Technology spend billions of dollars on hundreds of federal research programs every

⁸⁴ Xunlight Corporation website. <http://www.xunlight.com/technology.shtml>

year. Doling out taxpayer funding to corporations for research is not only duplicative of current federal efforts, but amounts to little more than corporate welfare.

In 2005, the Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, held a hearing titled “An Assessment of Federal Funding for Private Research and Development.”

In Senator Coburn’s submitted statement he said the following, “Last year (2004), venture capitalists invested over \$20 billion into various projects in the U.S. economy. Industries including biotechnology, telecommunications, and health care services received hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in funding from private investors. All of that venture capital funding also doesn’t even take into account the massive amount of money spent each year on research and development, or R&D, by publicly-traded American companies. Just to give a few examples, IBM in 2004 spent more than \$5 billion on R&D, while Motorola spent more than \$3 billion on R&D. In short, the private sector of the U.S. economy is researching new technologies and products at a feverish pace.”⁸⁵

Instead of federally funding companies through earmarks, companies should be funded through competitive grants. The federal government has numerous competitively bid research grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Energy (DOE), and National Institute of Standards and Technology that a company can apply for through a competitive grant process.

PMA:

Xunlight Corp paid PMA \$80,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Rep. Kaptur \$41,500 in campaign contribution since 1989.

PMA has given Senator Brown \$1,500 in campaign contribution since 1989.

PMA has given Senator Voinovich \$9,000 in campaign contribution since 1989.

⁸⁵ Chairman’s Statement. Sen. Tom Coburn, M.D. Senate Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management May 26, 2005. http://coburn.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=92262284-d025-4b92-b54c-c579ae080cc1

Aerospace and innovation Education for Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology in Connecticut: \$410,000 (Rep. Larson)

The FY 2009 omnibus includes a \$410,000 earmark for aerospace and innovation education.

Since Fiscal Year 2000, the Center has received over \$20 million in federal funds, with the majority having come in 2005. This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$410,000 earmark.

The Department of Education provides numerous educational grants for similar initiatives. Given that there are other sources of funding available, the bankrupt federal government should be spend money that it does not have on projects that have alternative funding sources.

Before receiving federal handouts from taxpayers, The Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology would be better served to budget more efficiently and cut out its lower priority expenditures. For example, in the past couple of months the Center has attended conferences in Miami, Florida, Walt Disney World, and Japan.⁸⁶ While the information at these conferences certainly could be useful, there are numerous ways to disseminate information, thus precluding the need to attend these conferences at exotic locations, and the Center could use this money for its education programs instead of laying the tab on the American taxpayer.

PMA:

Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology paid PMA \$25,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Representative Larson \$42,350 in campaign contributions since 1989.

⁸⁶ <http://www.ccat.us/events/archive>

Renovation and equipment at Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania: \$95,000 (Specter)

The FY 2009 omnibus includes a \$95,000 earmark for renovation and equipment at Carnegie Mellon University. While this might be a worthy project for the school to pursue, it is not the responsibility of the federal government, which is currently facing bankruptcy.

Carnegie Mellon has an endowment of over a \$1 billion.⁸⁷

This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$95,000 earmark.

Carnegie Mellon already has a fundraising program to attempt to raise \$100 million for facilities and equipment.⁸⁸ According to its website, the fundraising initiative has set a goal of raising \$100 million for “facilities and equipment” Part of the fundraising effort is the creation of a new School of Computer Science Complex, which “has already been launched with lead gifts from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and from the Henry L. Hillman Foundation,” according to the University.

In addition, the Pennsylvania state government has an education budget for FY 2009 of \$12 billion,⁸⁹ and the higher education account for the Department of Education received \$100 million in the recently passed Stimulus bill. Furthermore, the Department of Education provides numerous educational grants for similar initiatives. Given that there are other sources of funding available, the bankrupt federal government should not spend money that it does not have on projects with significant alternative funding sources.

Before receiving federal handouts from taxpayers, Carnegie Mellon would be better served to budget more efficiently and cut out its lower priority expenditures. For example, the Carnegie Mellon School of Art planned to launch a reality talk show at a waffle shop this past weekend. The project, titled "Waffle Shop: A Reality Talk Show," takes place in an actual shop

⁸⁷ <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08312/926142-52.stm>

⁸⁸ <http://www.cmu.edu/campaign/facilities/index.html>

⁸⁹ http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_113914_350146_0_0_18/2009_10_Budget_Document.pdf

serving waffles, where 11 Carnegie Mellon students use the space for a talk show as a way to document the local community.⁹⁰

PMA:

Carnegie Mellon University paid the PMA group \$20,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Senator Specter \$20,450 in campaign contributions since 1989.

⁹⁰http://my.cmu.edu/site/events/template.MAXIMIZE/menuitem.ae027c3e07f657ff776ea0a1d4a02008/?javax.portlet.tpst=8453c10c16d45c67ad76fb8ed388167d_ws_MX&javax.portlet.prp_8453c10c16d45c67ad76fb8ed388167d_viewID=content&javax.portlet.prp_8453c10c16d45c67ad76fb8ed388167d_docName=Carnegie%20Mellon%20School%20of%20Art%20Uses%20Waffle%20Shop%20To%20Launch%20Reality%20Talk%20Show&javax.portlet.prp_8453c10c16d45c67ad76fb8ed388167d_folderPath=%2FAdministrative%2FUnivAdvancement%2F&javax.portlet.begCacheTok=token&javax.portlet.endCacheTok=token

College preparation program at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, Pennsylvania: \$95,000 (Sens. Specter/Casey)

The FY 2009 omnibus provides \$95,000 for renovation and equipment at Mount Aloysius College located in Cresson, Pennsylvania. This amendment would prohibit the funding of this earmark.

Mount Aloysius College has currently has an endowment of \$16.1 million.⁹¹

The state government of Pennsylvania has an education budget for FY 2009 of \$12 billion,⁹² and the higher education account for the Department of Education received \$100 million in the recently passed Stimulus bill. Furthermore, the Department of Education provides numerous educational grant programs for similar initiatives. Given that there are other sources of funding available, the bankrupt federal government should be spend money that it does not have on projects that have alternative funding sources.

Before receiving federal handouts from taxpayers, Mount Aloysius College would be better served to budget more efficiently and cut out its lower priority expenditures. For example, last week, the College hosted a “70’s Dance Party”, and “Mini Dance Camp” last December.⁹³ While entertainment and recreation is may be part of the college experience, they should forgo such activities if they truly need help from federal taxpayers.

PMA:

Mount Aloysius College paid PMA \$80,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Senator Specter \$20,450, and Senator Casey \$8,500 since 1989.

⁹¹ <http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/college/items/3302>

⁹² http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_113914_350146_0_0_18/2009_10_Budget_Document.pdf

⁹³ http://www.mtaloy.edu/about_mac/news_events/calendar.dot

Science and education programs at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania: \$95,000 (Sen. Specter)

The FY 2009 omnibus includes a \$95,000 earmark for science education outreach programs at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania. This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$95,000 earmark.

Washington & Jefferson College has an endowment of \$170 million.⁹⁴

The state of Pennsylvania has an education budget for FY 2009 of \$12 billion,⁹⁵ and the higher education account for the Department of Education received \$100 million in the recently passed Stimulus bill. Furthermore, the Department of Education provides numerous educational grant programs for similar initiatives. Given that there are other sources of funding available, the bankrupt federal government should be spend money that it does not have on projects that have alternative funding sources.

Before receiving federal handouts from taxpayers, Washington & Jefferson College would be better served to budget more efficiently and cut out its lower priority expenditures. For example, last December, Washington & Jefferson hosted bowling parties and another event where students can “enjoy guided imageries and tune into progressive relaxation techniques.”⁹⁶ While relaxation and stress relieving is certainly needed in college, Washington & Jefferson should forgo such activities if they truly need help from the bankrupt federal government.

PMA:

Washington & Jefferson College paid PMA \$80,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Senator Specter \$20,450 in campaign contributions since 1989.

⁹⁴ <http://admissions.washcoll.edu/faq.php>

⁹⁵ http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_113914_350146_0_0_18/2009_10_Budget_Document.pdf

⁹⁶ http://www.washjeff.edu/content.aspx?display=monthupwithevent&sDate=12/1/2008§ion=1357&menu_id=381&crumb=138&id=101&mode=calendar

Math and science teacher programs in Chicago Public Schools at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois: \$714,000 (Sen. Durbin)

The FY 2009 omnibus provides \$714,000 for math and science teacher programs in Chicago Public Schools at DePaul University. This amendment would prohibit funding for this earmark.

DePaul University has an endowment of \$344.7 million.⁹⁷

The state government of Illinois had a projected education budget for FY 2009 of \$9.7 billion,⁹⁸ and the higher education account for the Department of Education received \$100 million in the recently passed Stimulus bill. Given that there are other sources of funding available, the bankrupt federal government should be spend money that it does not have on projects that have alternative funding sources.

Before receiving federal handouts from taxpayers, DePaul University would be better served to budget more efficiently and cut out its lower priority expenditures. For example, last October DePaul provided a week of “stress-free days”, where students could “enjoy massages, food, and study resources” during mid-term exams.⁹⁹ While relaxation and stress relieving is necessary during the college years, DePaul should forgo such activities if they truly need help from the bankrupt federal government.

PMA:

DePaul paid PMA \$40,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Senator Durbin \$31,250 in campaign contribution since 1989.

⁹⁷ <http://alumni.depaul.edu/give/areas/UniversityInitiatives.aspx>

⁹⁸ <http://www.state.il.us/budget/FY%202009%20Operating%20Budget%20Book%20v2.pdf>

⁹⁹ <http://events.depaul.edu/index.aspx?v=c&ds=10/1/2008&de=10/31/2008>

Renovation and equipment at Nazareth Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: \$95,000 (Sens. Specter/Casey)

The FY 2009 omnibus includes a \$95,000 earmark for renovation and equipment at Nazareth Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Since Fiscal Year 2000, Nazareth Hospital has received \$143,210 in federal funds for various purposes.¹⁰⁰ This amendment would prohibit funding for the \$95,000 earmark.

The state of Pennsylvania has a Health and Human Service budget for FY 2010 of \$12.6 billion.¹⁰¹ Furthermore, the Department of Health and Human Services provides numerous hospital grants for similar initiatives. Given that there are other sources of funding available, the bankrupt federal government should be spend money that it does not have on projects that have alternative funding sources.

PMA:

Nazareth College paid PMA \$80,000 for their lobbying services.

PMA has given Senator Specter \$20,450, and Senator Casey \$8,500 in campaign contributions since 1989.

¹⁰⁰ http://www.fedspending.org/faads/faads.php?reptype=r&detail=-1&datatype=T&sortby=t&database=faads&recip_id=641098&fiscal_year=2006&record_num=f500

¹⁰¹ http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_113914_350146_0_0_18/2009_10_Budget_Document.pdf

Amendment XXX — Strikes a \$1.9 million earmark for Pleasure Beach Water Taxi Service in Connecticut.

The FY 2009 omnibus provides \$1.9 million to the Pleasure Beach Water Taxi Service located in Connecticut. The funding comes out the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for economic development initiatives in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. HUD's core mission is to combat homelessness, increase homeownership, and provide access to affordable housing.¹⁰² Housing and Urban Development, as its name suggests, also cites urban development as one of its responsibilities.

Unfortunately, Congress has greatly abused this ambiguous term and under the guise of "economic development", has used this function of HUD to fund thousands of projects that are neither for Housing or Urban Development. The Office of Management & Budget recently conducted a review of the CDBG and determined the current program is not well-targeted and the results of its assistance have not been adequately demonstrated or reported.¹⁰³

This amendment would strike funding for Pleasure Beach from the legislation, saving taxpayers nearly \$2 million.

Pleasure Beach has been abandoned for a decade.¹⁰⁴

One such example of miss-targeted funding is a \$1,900,000 earmark for a water taxi service for Pleasure Beach, an island near the towns of Bridgeport and Stratford, Connecticut. Pleasure Beach was once a thriving beach community in Connecticut, however, access to the island is currently closed and consequently it's an abandoned and empty beach.

In 1994, with the bridge to Pleasure Island in a state of disrepute, the state Department of Transportation advised Bridgeport that it had set federal and state funding aside to build a new bridge, but in a show of apathy Bridgeport didn't respond in time and the money was allotted to another project. Two years later, in 1996, the wooden and dilapidated bridge caught on fire and forced the bridge, and the island itself, to close down.

¹⁰² <http://www.hud.gov/library/bookshelf12/hudmission.cfm>

¹⁰³ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2008/pdf/savings.pdf>

¹⁰⁴ <http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~howardlake/amusement20/pleasurebeach.html>

City Councilman asks “why build a bridge to Pleasure Beach? No one ever goes there?”

Estimated repairs to the bridge would cost around \$30 million, and local leaders have debated the project, and the future of Pleasure Beach, for the past decade. At one point, Stratford City Council member "Doc" Gunther held a public hearing to consider the construction of a more economical bridge to Pleasure Island. In response, one of the co-chairs of the meeting exclaimed, "Why build a bridge to Pleasure Beach? No one ever goes there."¹⁰⁵

Local mayor argues Pleasure Beach is not a priority

Recently, a committee was formed to study the possible reconstruction of the bridge, using a \$150,000 state grant. However, in September of 2008, Stratford Mayor James R. Miron, disagreed with the study, stating, “they’re wasting their time, it shows an utter lack of understanding of state government and the state budgeting system.”¹⁰⁶ Miron said the priority should be focused on another bridge, stuck in the up position for a decade, and Bridgeport schools. Miron continued by saying “Stratford leaders should focus on local issues, and that there’s been no attempt to rebuild the bridge to Pleasure Beach in the 12 years since it burned because there’s no support for it.”¹⁰⁷

Earmark would create unfunded mandates on cash-strapped towns

With the construction of the bridge at an impasse, attention has turned towards a water taxi service that could ferry people to the island. While the underlying issue of the necessity, or safety, of allowing people to return to Pleasure Island remains unanswered, the Federal government, with this earmark, will enter into a strictly local issue and provide access to a location where nothing exists. On Pleasure Island, Bridgeport mayor Bill

¹⁰⁵ <http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~howardlake/amusement20/pleasurebeach.html>

¹⁰⁶ http://www.acorn-online.com/joomla15/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9677:new-span-to-pleasure-beach-could-block-long-beach-west-sale&catid=186:local-news&Itemid=517

¹⁰⁷ http://www.acorn-online.com/joomla15/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9677:new-span-to-pleasure-beach-could-block-long-beach-west-sale&catid=186:local-news&Itemid=517

Finch stated, "we have a closed park, we want an open park, but we have no money to do it."¹⁰⁸

While the federal government has unilaterally decided a contentious local issue, it will also have the unintended consequences of placing unfunded mandates onto the cities of Stratford and Bridgeport. Bridgeport City Council President John Fabrizi in 2003 stated, "In addition to the funding for the water taxis you have to talk about police protection and fire protection, running water, electricity and issues of that nature. It's not as simple as just finding funding for water taxis. The city has other obligations if it's going to allow people to use the beach there."¹⁰⁹ The federal government should not heap any undue liabilities or burdens onto towns, especially when it unclear whether the towns want Pleasure Beach to be open to the public.

¹⁰⁸ http://www.acorn-online.com/joomla15/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9677:new-span-to-pleasure-beach-could-block-long-beach-west-sale&catid=186:local-news&Itemid=517

¹⁰⁹ <http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~howardlake/amusement20/pleasurebeach.html>

Amendment XXXX – Strike the earmarked funds for the old Tiger Stadium in Michigan.

This amendment prohibits the funding of a \$3.8 million earmark to the Old Tiger Stadium Conservancy for the preservation and redevelopment of the Old Tiger Stadium in Michigan.

The earmark is not specified in the bill but hidden in the report language for the bill.

The earmark raids the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) section of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for purposes contrary to what is authorized by law.

The preservation of Tiger Stadium is such a low priority to local citizens, adequate private funds have not been raised.

It has been nine years since the Tigers left Tiger Stadium for its new ballpark, and during this time, the Tiger Stadium preservationists, an organization called The Old Tiger Stadium Conservancy, failed to raise private funds needed for the preservation project. According to local media reports, consensus was building to “let go, and let the wrecking ball swing.”¹¹⁰

Total costs for the project have been forecast around \$15 million, and enough private funds were raised to temporarily delay the demolition of Tiger Stadium. However, reports are clear that this project will not move forward without a bailout from the U.S. taxpayer.¹¹¹

President Bush opposed using EDI grants to fund these types of earmarks, and in his fiscal year 2009 budget request, the EDI account was zeroed out.¹¹² According to local media reports, those advocating for this project were holding out for a new President to take office in 2009 and to try again

¹¹⁰ Calabrese, Dan , “If Deficits Are So Bad, Why a Federal Earmark for Tiger Stadium?,” *American Chronicle*, 24 July 2008 - <http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/view/69351>

¹¹¹ “Committee recommends saving part of Tiger Stadium,” Associated Press, 29 July 2008 - <http://tinyurl.com/citbo3>; Beck, Jason, “Final Tiger Stadium demolition delayed Conservancy near funds that would keep renovation afloat,” Major League Baseball News, 7 October 2008 - <http://tinyurl.com/dlqtfg>.

¹¹² “The Department of Housing and Urban Development: FY2009 Appropriations,” Congressional Research Service, 17 January 2009 - <http://tinyurl.com/bhwg24>.

to push through this earmark.¹¹³

Detroit, Michigan, home of Tiger Stadium, already receives a disproportionate share of un-earmarked, CDBG funds.

According to 2005 data, Detroit receives \$52 in CDBG funding per capita and totaling over \$43 million. This is the largest total funding and largest per capita funding for CDBG entitlement communities located in Michigan. In contrast, the community of East Lansing, MI only receives \$15 in CDBG funding per capita—even though East Lansing and Detroit are similar economically: for per capita household income, Detroit is \$27,871 while East Lansing is \$28,217.¹¹⁴

This Economic Development Initiative earmark is for activities not authorized by the law governing EDI grants.

This earmark is carved out of the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) grants issued by the Community Development Block Grant program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. EDI grants, by law, are meant to enhance the security of concessional loans issued under the CDBG program.¹¹⁵

Instead of securing a federal loan, this earmark is intended for the following¹¹⁶:

- Preserving the Tiger Stadium baseball diamond and 3,000 seats for youth baseball teams to use,
- Constructing a museum, and
- Creating banquet and retail space.

¹¹³ Spangler, Todd, "Federal funds to preserve Tiger Stadium are on hold," Detroit Free Press, 31 July 2008 - <http://tinyurl.com/c7eqng>.

¹¹⁴ Data from the Department of HUD and the Census Bureau, collected in 2006.

¹¹⁵ Section 108(q) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; see also <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/economicdevelopment/programs/edi>.

¹¹⁶ Flemming, Leonard N. and Christine MacDonald, "Tentative deal saves part of Tiger Stadium," Detroit News, 29 July 2008 - <http://tinyurl.com/dh36k7>; Kavanaugh, Kelli, "Game not over: Demolition begins, but efforts to save parts of Tiger Stadium continue," Detroit Metro Times, 9 July 2008 - <http://tinyurl.com/boz7zk>. trey

Amendment XXXX - Strikes \$238,000 in funding for the Polynesian Voyage Society (PVS) in Hawaii

This amendment would strike a \$238,000 earmark for the Polynesian Voyage Society to take boat rides and build ancient canoes in the waters of beautiful Hawaii. This amendment would prevent the American people from having to say “a hui hou” (good-bye) to their tax dollars.

Specifically, the earmark provides \$238,000 to the Polynesian Voyage Society for “cultural education programs.” Through these programs, the funds are used to teach individuals to build, maintain, and sail native “canoe-like” boats in the Pacific Ocean using ancient Polynesian navigation methods.

There is certainly value in preserving cultural heritage. However, based on the extremely vague details in the report language and the nature of the PVS organization, it is unclear how this money will be effectively utilized other than to take people around on sunset cruises in ancient canoes on the ocean surrounding Hawaii.

The FY 2009 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill is a runaway spending spree consisting of 942 earmarks in the Senate version. As usual, the American taxpayer will be picking up the tab to the tune of \$847 million. Why should the people of Oklahoma and other land-locked states have to pay for Hawaiian canoe cruises they won't even get to take?

This is a prime example we can show the American people of the incredible wasteful spending that goes on in Washington. Are Polynesian canoe voyages really a priority for the American people during the worst economic times since the Great Depression? We have a national debt standing at over \$10.7 trillion. It would be unconscionable to spend to money on this program given our current economic conditions.

Earmark Background Information

The Polynesian Voyaging Society is a non-profit research and educational corporation founded in 1973, and is based in Honolulu, HI. The group constructs, repairs, and maintains the canoe-like boats from the historical Polynesian native culture. They also recruit and train people to sail the canoes in the non-instrumental navigational method of the ancient Polynesian culture.

PVS was founded to research how Polynesian seafarers discovered and settled nearly every inhabitable island in the Pacific Ocean before European explorers arrived in the 16th century. PVS is setting out to show that a voyaging canoe of Polynesian design can be navigated without instruments over the long, open ocean migration routes of Polynesia.

PVS has received a total of \$306,049 in federal government assistance since FY 2001¹¹⁷. No federal contracts have been awarded to PVS since 2000¹¹⁸

PVS had \$874,521 in revenue, as well as \$92,000 in cash on hand at the end of the year (according to its 2007 990 tax return).

Since 1975, PVS has only constructed TWO canoes – the Hokule‘a and Hawai‘iloa.

There are 21 people on the PVS Board of Directors.

This cultural education program is administered through the University of Hawaii Kapi‘Olani Community College. The State of Hawaii’s FY 2009 operating budget is \$10.5 billion, of which \$2.4 billion goes to education (23% of the state budget)¹¹⁹.

¹¹⁷ http://www.usaspending.gov/faads/faads.php?reptype=r&detail=-1&datatype=T&sortby=t&database=faads&recip_id=362165&fiscal_year=2008&record_num=f500

¹¹⁸ www.usaspending.gov / www.crs.gov (Congressional Research Service)

¹¹⁹ http://hawaii.gov/budget/memos/budget_in_brief/02-Operating_and_Capital_Budget-Statewide_Summaries.pdf

Amendment # -- Strike the \$380,000 earmark for the American Lighthouse Foundation in Maine

The American Lighthouse Foundation (ALF) preserves historic light stations nationwide. This is accomplished through the restoration, promotion and adaptive re-use of America's light stations, as well as educational initiatives. This amendment will strike funding for a \$380,000 earmark intended to fund, "the restoration and preservation of Maine's historic lighthouses."

\$380,000 Earmark for Only 10 Lighthouses, Intended to Support Maine Economy

According to the American Lighthouse Foundation (ALF) website, "the funding will help the Rockland-based American Lighthouse Foundation, which cares for 10 lighthouses along the coast of Maine, to enhance the organization's preservation and public access programs."¹²⁰

ALF executive director Bob Trapani comments that ensuring the existence of the historic structures have a vital financial impact on Maine's economy. However, Maine currently has a state budget of \$7.5 billion, and if restoring their lighthouses is a state priority, then the state of Maine should budget for such costs and not ask taxpayers across the county to fund this parochial project.¹²¹

Recent 990 tax return form shows significant savings and revenue for Foundation and \$2 million in total assets¹²²

According to their most recent 990 tax return form, the American Lighthouse Foundation reported \$335,200 in "savings and temporary cash investments." An earmark of \$380,000 is unnecessary for a non-profit organization who reported well over \$330,000 in savings the same year.

¹²⁰ "400,000 budgeted for Maine Lighthouses Cared for by the American Lighthouse Foundation," American Lighthouse Foundation, http://www.lighthousefoundation.org/newsroom/alf_fedapprop09_080902.htm

¹²¹ "Total Appropriations & Allocations, All funds, 2008-2009 Biennium, Through 123rd Legislature, 1st Special Session", Maine State Legislature, Office of Fiscal and Program Review. 12/10/2008, http://www.maine.gov/legis/ofpr/total_state_budget/approps_alloc/0809_Approps_Alloc.pdf

¹²² Guidestar USA, Inc, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. 2009. <http://www.guidestar.org/pgShowFastResults.do;jsessionid=362ACAB9897627F0F8E69ADC1425B255.web06Worker.web06Worker?partner=guidestar&source=homepage>

The American Lighthouse Foundation also reported *total revenue* of \$750,421 according to their most recent 990 form. Of which, the functional expenses were reported at \$613, 576—still allowing for considerable profit.

Furthermore, the American Lighthouse Foundation reported nearly \$2 million in total assets.

ALF Revenue sources beyond state and federal¹²³

The “Maine Lighthouse Museum” is open 7-days a week and charges \$5 admission. It boasts a very impressive and expensive gift shop and charges annual membership levels from \$25 to \$2,500.

Federal funding for museums should go through a competitive, accountable grant process.

Instead of federally funding museums through earmarks, museums should be funded through competitive grants. Two programs that fund museums through grants are the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the National Science Foundation’s Informal Science Education Program (ISE).

These grants are competitive and there is a process where an institution must prove its worth and is closely monitored by the agencies. There are real consequences throughout the grant period if a museum doesn’t adhere to the terms and conditions of the award.

The national debt is nearing \$11 trillion and funding lighthouse museums is not currently a federal priority.

With a national debt reaching nearly \$11 trillion, the federal government simply cannot afford additional funds, particularly towards an organization that has continuously reported considerable saving and revenue.

¹²³ American Lighthouse Foundation, <http://www.lighthousefoundation.org/index.html>

Amendment XXXX – Eliminate \$300,000 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of John Brown’s raid on the arsenal at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park to defray the costs of the extensive events that will surround the anniversary.

The purpose of the 150th Commemoration is for the John Brown 150th Anniversary Quad-State Committee, comprised of citizens from four states, to plan 65 events that will take place between April and December 2009. The Committee will spend the money to organize events consisting of re-enactments, dramatic productions, art exhibits, academic lectures, special tours, concerts, educational symposiums, scholarships, living-history programs, family and youth activities and ranger-conducted programs.¹²⁴ During this time of national economic crisis, any money for celebrations should be reserved for national priorities.

The commemoration already has ample funding available to it through state and local organizations.

Sponsoring the commemoration are twelve organizations including the Jefferson County NAACP, Penn State University-Mont Alto campus,¹²⁵ which operates under the umbrella of a \$1.6 billion endowment¹²⁶ and the West Virginia Division of Tourism.

While the historical event was certainly a turning point in our nation’s history and well-worth our studies, this earmark is going to support tourism in these four states:

The strategy is to attract tourists to the Quad-state region to visit historical sites and spend money on lodging, food, gas and sundries to help the region's economy. Studies have shown that heritage tourists tend to stay longer and spend more money than the average tourist.¹²⁷

"We look at the economic impact of tourism as extremely important, and with the 150th anniversary, we expect a bigger influx of tourists

¹²⁴ Official John Brown commemorative celebration website: <http://www.johnbrownraid.org/index.php>; The Journal: John Brown Sesquicentennial top tourist destination, January 14, 2009.

¹²⁵ Official John Brown commemorative celebration website: <http://www.johnbrownraid.org/links.html>

¹²⁶ Penn State University, *The President’s Report on Philanthropy 2007-2008*, <http://president.psu.edu/philanthropy/investment/>

¹²⁷ Quad-State Business Journal, Sesquicentennial Starts with John Brown <http://www.allbusiness.com/entertainment-arts/museums-parks-gardens-historical/11784454-1.html>

and more spending," said Tom Riford, president of the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau.¹²⁸

If Congress wants to enhance tourism in the U.S., it should focus on policies that reduce financial burdens on the American people and allow them to keep more of their hard earned incomes to spend how they choose. Congress should not spend money to promote tourism and other economic development in certain states when Americans across the country are struggling to make ends meet.

The current unemployment rate is 7.6%. Now is not the time to allocate more federal tax dollars for tourism. We know from experience that federal funding is not sufficient stimulus for our economy.

¹²⁸ ibid

Amendment XXXX – To strike a \$475,000 earmark for improvements to Orange County Great Park.

Despite congressional legislation that has already appropriated more than \$1 trillion in additional spending and close to another \$1 trillion in government loans, America's economy is hurting. Americans are looking to Congress to abandon a business-as-usual approach and extraordinary decisions that require political courage and sacrifice.

Congress cannot afford to lavish scarce taxpayer funds on parochial and non-essential interests. The FY 2009 omnibus appropriations bill includes a \$475,000 earmark for Orange Country Great Park in California.

This amendment would strike a low priority earmark for improvements to Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California.

Orange Country Great Park is the County's Largest Sports Park and home to a Botanical Garden and a Tethered Helium Observation Balloon.

The Orange County Great Park is a project to turn a former Marine base closed by the Federal Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process in 1999, into a huge municipal park (1,347 acres) in Irvine, California. This effort is a public-private partnership with Lennar Corporation (a Fortune 500 home building company). Lennar Corporation was given the rights to develop property for residential, commercial and industrial construction in return for committing \$200 million to future development and maintenance of this park.¹²⁹

According to Orange County Great Park Corporation Website,
"The Orange County Great Park Plan will provide a wide array of active and passive uses, including a 2.5 mile canyon and lake, miles of walking and biking trails, a cultural terrace, Orange County's largest sports park, a botanical garden, and a tethered helium

¹²⁹ "About Us," Orange County Great Park Corporation <http://www.ocgp.org/about/default.asp> - accessed February 28, 2009

observation balloon that will be an icon for the Great Park. More than 3,885 of the 4,700 acres will be dedicated to open space, education, and other public uses.”¹³⁰

Orange County Sports Park has a History of Questionable Spending Priorities.

Unfortunately, questionable spending priorities have hampered the development of this project to a breaking point.

In 2007 before the slowing economy, the *L.A. Times* detailed waste and mismanagement with this huge project:

“As [visitors to the park] float skyward this summer aboard a \$5-million tethered helium balloon ride at Irvine’s Great Park, passengers on the free attraction might notice some unusual amenities on the ground:

- * a \$300,000 tent – designed to resemble an airplane hangar – that costs \$75,000 a year to clean;
- * a four-person visitor center crew hired under a \$370,000 annual contract;
- * a series of orange dots painted along the park’s entrance road at a cost of \$14,000.

When the 15-minute voyage ends, a French-trained pilot earning a six-figure salary will use a remote control to lower the craft to earth.

The helium-filled airship attraction is expected to lose about \$850,000 its first year...”¹³¹

These spending mispriorities and an ordinance by the Irvine City Council which permitted visitors to ride the helium-filled airship attraction for free for months, prompted concerns from various local government officials that the

¹³⁰ “About Us,” Orange County Great Park Corporation <http://www.ocgp.org/about/default.asp> - accessed February 28, 2009

¹³¹ Tony Barboza and Roy Rivenburg, “Great Park gets high profile - A balloon ride is the first attraction at O.C.’s planned suburban oasis,” July 13, 2007, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2007/jul/13/local/me-balloon13>

initial \$850,000 deficit would slow or derail the \$1.1 billion project to transform “the former El Toro Marine base’s cracked airstrips and dusty terrain into a dramatic landscape of lakes, orchards, athletic fields, museums and a rugged, man-made canyon.”¹³²

Additional costs included \$838,000 to build a road to the balloon, plant citrus trees and buy a \$300,000 special 50-by-50-foot tent that will serve as the visitor center, \$380,000 a year for two balloon pilots, a hostess and maintenance, \$100,000 a year for a balloon replacement fund, \$94,000 a year for portable restrooms, \$52,000 annually for security between 1 and 5 a.m., and \$30,000 a year for trash removal.¹³³

Why should American taxpayers fund free rides on Helium balloons?

As the Project Fell Behind, the County Began Looking for Government Help.

One year later, the *L.A. Times* reported,

“Nearly three years after the city approved a massive residential and commercial development at the closed El Toro Marine base in exchange for a grand park in the heart of suburban Orange County, Irvine officials and struggling home builder Lennar Corp. are in talks about revising the landmark agreement.

No homes or businesses have been built. No grassy fields have been planted. And the runways – so hated by opponents of a proposed regional airport at the base – still sit mostly intact...

¹³²Tony Barboza and Roy Rivenburg, “Great Park gets high profile - A balloon ride is the first attraction at O.C.’s planned suburban oasis,” July 13, 2007, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2007/jul/13/local/me-balloon13>

¹³³Tony Barboza and Roy Rivenburg, “Great Park gets high profile - A balloon ride is the first attraction at O.C.’s planned suburban oasis,” July 13, 2007, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2007/jul/13/local/me-balloon13>

But for now, no timeline exists for when each park feature will be developed. Most of the future park's 1,347 acres remain off limits to the public, with a balloon ride and a visitor's center being the only public facilities – although a 27-acre “preview park” is under construction.”¹³⁴

With Lennar experiencing consistent losses for a total of \$2.4 billion over six straight quarters (including the third quarter in 2008)¹³⁵ and funding sources drying up, the article pointed out that “officials are pursuing state and federal grants.”¹³⁶

The bulk of the \$52 million the city spent up to that point, went to hire a team of dozens of design, engineering and public relations consultants, to build the balloon ride and to pay administrative staff.

Local officials blasted this misprioritization of funds:

“To have nothing more than a balloon and the possibility of a 27-acre park is disappointing,” said county Supervisor Bill Campbel, “ They’re spending a lot on engineers, PR people and other things, and they’re not delivering.”¹³⁷

State Assemblyman Todd Spitzer (R-Orange) also criticized the city for not building recreation facilities that could be used by the public, while wasting money on “a ridiculous, oversized balloon and free rides.”¹³⁸

¹³⁴ Tony Barboza, “Irvine’s Great Park hasn’t exactly earned its name: Irvine and home builder Lennar are in talks about revising the landmark agreement to build the promised recreational area,” April 12, 2008, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2008/apr/12/local/me-greatpark12>

¹³⁵ Jeff Collins, “Lennar wants meaningful home aid,” September 23rd, 2008, Orange County Register, <http://lansner.freedomblogging.com/2008/09/23/lennar-wants-meaningful-home-aid/3776/>

¹³⁶ Tony Barboza, “Irvine’s Great Park hasn’t exactly earned its name: Irvine and home builder Lennar are in talks about revising the landmark agreement to build the promised recreational area,” April 12, 2008, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2008/apr/12/local/me-greatpark12>

¹³⁷ Tony Barboza, “Irvine’s Great Park hasn’t exactly earned its name: Irvine and home builder Lennar are in talks about revising the landmark agreement to build the promised recreational area,” April 12, 2008, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2008/apr/12/local/me-greatpark12>

¹³⁸ Tony Barboza, “Irvine’s Great Park hasn’t exactly earned its name: Irvine and home builder Lennar are in talks about revising the landmark agreement to build the promised recreational area,” April 12, 2008, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2008/apr/12/local/me-greatpark12>

Funding for the Great Park in one of the Country's Wealthiest Cities Should be Questioned in Light of the Recent Economic Downturn

California has been especially hard hit by the recent economic downturn.

California's unemployment rate jumped to 10.1% in January, the highest since 1983, as employers in the nation's most-populous state cut 79,000 jobs in the month. There were 3.3% fewer jobs in California than a year earlier. In total there are now 1,863,000 unemployed Californians – 754,000 more than in January 2008.¹³⁹

In addition, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on February 27, 2009, declared a state of emergency to address California's third-straight year of drought, ordering officials to take steps to reduce urban water consumption and to expedite water transfers throughout the state.¹⁴⁰

This earmark is neither a priority for Californians or for all other Americans.

The residents of Irvine – the seventh richest city in America with median household incomes of \$98,923 and the median family incomes of is \$111,455¹⁴¹ – should also not look to the federal government to complete golf courses and pay for helium balloon rides. Nor should Orange County, home to more millionaires than almost any other place in the country¹⁴², and the 48th wealthiest county in the U.S. according to U.S. Census Bureau with a median household income of \$60,118. Nor should Orange

¹³⁹ Stu Woo, "California's Jobless Rate Soars to 10.1%," February 28, 2009, Wall Street Journal, <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123576619171196559.html#>

¹⁴⁰ Stu Woo, "California's Jobless Rate Soars to 10.1%," February 28, 2009, Wall Street Journal, <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123576619171196559.html#>

¹⁴¹ Ronald Campbell, "Three O.C. cities rank near top in U.S. income," August 26th, 2008, Orange County Register, <http://ocbiz.freedomblogging.com/2008/08/26/three-oc-cities-rank-near-top-in-us-income/>

¹⁴² In 2006, OC was 3rd in the nation in millionaires (not including homes) with 113,000 households. http://www.ocregister.com/ocregister/homepage/abox/article_1076369.php

Country, the 48th wealthiest county in the U.S. according to U.S. Census Bureau with a median household income of \$60,118.¹⁴³

By passing this amendment, Congress will not be asking taxpayers to bail out a failed public private partnership for “a ridiculous, oversized balloon and free rides.”¹⁴⁴

¹⁴³ (<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Ranking/2003/R07T050.htm>).

¹⁴⁴ Tony Barboza, “Irvine’s Great Park hasn’t exactly earned its name: Irvine and home builder Lennar are in talks about revising the landmark agreement to build the promised recreational area,” April 12, 2008, Los Angeles Times, <http://articles.latimes.com/2008/apr/12/local/me-greatpark12>

Amendment XXXX – Strike a \$1,791,000 earmark for Swine Odor and Manure Management Research

The FY 2009 Omnibus provides \$1,791,000 earmark for the Swine Odor and Manure Management Research Center located on the Iowa State University campus in Ames, IA. The purpose of this amendment is to eliminate the nearly \$2 million earmark going toward animal odor research.

One Of The Main Focuses Of the Swine Odor and Manure Management Research Center Is To Reduce Odor Production.

According to an Iowa state press release, from April 22, 1999, “The federal government built the National Swine Research and Information Center to bring together in a single facility research on pork industry problems, such as **odor**, water quality impact, animal health and worker safety.”¹⁴⁵

Below is a more technical description of the research, taken from the USDA’s web site:

"The research program goals include: map, characterize and alter the in situ microflora (through diet manipulation) of the gastrointestinal tract to reduce odor production and improve nutrient utilization; determine the effect of alternative diet formulations on nutrient excretion and odor generation from manure storage facilities while optimizing animal performance and carcass characteristics..."¹⁴⁶

In short, this earmark is \$1.7 million to take the stink out of manure.

¹⁴⁵ Iowa State Press Release. 4-22-1999 ISU, ARS TO JOINTLY OPERATE SWINE RESEARCH CENTER
<http://www.public.iastate.edu/~nscentral/releases/99/apr/ars.html>

¹⁴⁶ USDA, Agriculture Research Service <http://www.ars.usda.gov/AboutUs/AboutUs.htm?modecode=36-25-15-20>

Since FY1999 Over \$17 Million in Federal Funds Have Been Directed To Swine Odor and Manure Management In Ames, Iowa

YEAR	FUNDING
FY1999	\$1,174,000
FY2000	\$1,446,000
FY2001	\$1,461,000
FY2002	\$1,862,000
FY2003	\$1,891,000
FY2004	\$1,891,000
FY2005	\$1,913,000
FY2006	\$1,913,000
FY2007	\$1,921,000
FY2008	\$1,907,000

Total = \$17.397,000¹⁴⁷

Background On The Swine Odor and Manure Management Research Center

According to an Iowa state press release, from April 22, 1999:

“Iowa State University (ISU) and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) have agreed to jointly operate the \$9.6 million National Swine Research and Information Center.

¹⁴⁷ Email Correspondence Between Senator Coburn’s Staff And The Congressional Liaison for the Agriculture Research Service. 02/27/2009. 3:32 p.m.

“The 52,000-square-foot building was completed in 1998. ARS is the chief scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture

“The 20-year agreement insures that the new facility, located on the ISU campus, will be used for its original purpose -- research on pork industry issues.”¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁸ Iowa State Press Release. 4-22-1999 ISU, ARS TO JOINTLY OPERATE SWINE RESEARCH CENTER
<http://www.public.iastate.edu/~nscentral/releases/99/apr/ars.html>

Amendment XXXX – This amendment would strike a \$200,000 earmark for tattoo removal in Burbank, California

The FY 2009 Omnibus provides \$200,000 for Tattoo Removal Violence Prevention Outreach Program in Burbank, California.

Located in Burbank, California, Providence Holy Cross Foundation, has been performing laser tattoo removal treatments for over 8 years and performed over 9,000 tattoo removal treatments. This program offers former gang members or anti-socialists the opportunity to have a gang-related tattoo removed.¹⁴⁹

While this program's goals are certainly laudable, tattoo removal should not be the responsibility of the federal government, which is currently under serious financial strain. The U.S. national debt now exceeds \$10.8 trillion, the largest in the history. That means almost \$35,000 in debt for each and every man, woman and child in the United States. This amendment would strike the \$200,000 earmark for tattoo removal.

The \$200,000 Tattoo Removal Earmark Goes To A Tattoo Removal Foundation With Nearly \$3 Million In Revenue In 2007.

According to its IRS Form 990 the Providence Holy Cross Foundation has substantial financial resources. The Foundation reported annual revenue of \$2,902,874, cash on hand of \$123,987, savings and temporary cash investments of \$98,449, and total net assets of over \$4 million at the end of 2007, the latest year for which data are available. This does not exactly paint a picture of a foundation in dire financial need.¹⁵⁰

This Earmark Would Benefit 142 Ex-Gang Members

¹⁴⁹ <http://www.providence.org/losangeles/services/tattooremoval/default.htm>

¹⁵⁰ *Providence Holy Cross Foundation. 2007 form 990.*
<http://www.guidestar.org/pqShowGsReport.do?partner=guidestar&npoId=100314299>

According to the foundation's website, they charge approximately \$875-\$1,400 to remove a tattoo, (\$175/session with it taking 5-8 treatments for complete removal). Based on this information, the \$200,000 earmark would only be able to treat 142 patients (depending on the 8- week treatment).¹⁵¹

While it is important for ex-gang members to be provided the opportunity to have their tattoos removed, it is not the responsibility for the federal government.

¹⁵¹ http://www.providence.org/losangeles/services/tattooremoval/tattoo_pay.htm

Amendment XXXX -- This amendment would strike two earmarks, totaling \$1.5 million for Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary.

The FY 2009 Omnibus provides a \$1 million earmark to Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary for the lease of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. In addition, the bill also includes a \$500,000 earmark to the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary for exhibits and telepresence technology. This amendment would strike the \$.5 million in earmarks for this ship wreck museum.

Thunder Bay's Primary Focus Is Shipwrecks Rather Than Ecological Value

It is important to note that while most other national marine sanctuaries regulate natural resources, Thunder Bay solely manages to protect and interpret a nationally significant collection of shipwrecks and other maritime heritage resources. As outlined in the sanctuary's designation document and reinforced in a Memorandum of Agreement between NOAA and the State of Michigan, the Sanctuary does not regulate fishing and other natural resources. For all intents and purposes, Thunder Bay's primary focus is shipwrecks rather than ecological value.

Even Thunder Bay's National Marine State of Sanctuary Report stated, "Historic shipwrecks are the reason for the Thunder Bay NMS's creation". Compared to NOAA Hurricane center's mission which is to save lives, mitigate property loss, and improve economic efficiency by issuing the best watches, warnings, forecasts and analyses of hazardous tropical weather, and by increasing understanding of these hazards. In addition, the vision of NOAA's Hurricane center is to be America's calm, clear and trusted

voice in the eye of the storm, and, with our partners, enable communities to be safe from tropical weather threats.

In FY 2008, Thunder Bay Received A \$1.8 Million Earmark For A Replica Schooner And Shipwreck Exhibit

In FY08, Thunder Bay received a \$1.8 million earmark for the completion of the schooner and shipwreck exhibits at its visitor center. According NOAA, approximately, \$80K would be used for labor, and the remainder would be used for the Telepresence/Great Lakes observation system.

Titled, “Exploring the Shipwreck Century”, the exhibits will help visitors appreciate the role of the Great Lakes in American history, and will foster public awareness and appreciation for Great Lakes’ shipwrecks”.

In addition, as the website states, “Explore the shipwrecks of Thunder Bay without getting wet! The Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center has over 8,000 square feet of innovative exhibit space including artifacts, models, exhibits – featuring Science on a Sphere, and documentaries on shipwrecks in and around the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary”.

In 2004 and 2005 Thunder Bay has received \$1,000,000 earmark for Exhibits:

According to past Senate Commerce, Justice, Science and related agencies appropriation reports Thunder Bay NMS received a \$1million earmark in both 2005 and 2006.

The majority of the money earmarked has been spent on contracting an exhibit firm to design the exhibit at Thunder Bay. Part of the exhibit will contain a replica of a schooner and a shipwreck that visitors will be able to walk through. According to NOAA, the components of the exhibit are interactive spaces specifically designed to engage learners of all ages in the importance and fragility of our oceans, Great Lakes, and their maritime history.

To note, there are other components of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center such as: Science on a Sphere, a visualization system that uses video projectors and a six-foot diameter sphere to animate data about the earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land. In addition, an interactive Great Lakes Geography/History section that explores the historic and current value of the world's largest body of freshwater.

According to the NOAA, in FY05, TBNMS received \$986K in PAC funding. This is a breakdown of how the money was spent on the exhibits.

- Thunder Bay spent \$250K with Mystic Aquarium for Telepresence infrastructure.
- Additionally, \$65K was spent on staffing and consultants for exhibits and facility planning.
- The sanctuary obligated \$671K for the GLMHC's exhibit design, fabrication, and installation(schooner and shipwreck exhibit).

In FY06, TBNMS received \$986K in PAC funding dedicated to the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center (GLMHC) and exhibits. This is a breakdown of how the money was spent.

- \$161,000 was spent on programming, staffing and consultants for exhibits and facility planning.
- Thunder Bay used \$80,000 for the procurement of the /Science on a Sphere/ exhibit.
- The remaining \$745 was obligated for the GLMHC's exhibit design, fabrication, and installation (schooner and shipwreck exhibit).

Total NOAA Funding for Thunder Bay: 2000-2007

There are two NOAA accounts providing funds for the Thunder Bay NMS:

YEAR	OPERATIONS, RESEARCH & FACILITIES	PROCUREMENT ACQUISITION & CONSTRUCTION
FY2000	\$240,000	
FY2001	\$418,000	
FY2002	\$418,000	
FY2003	\$530,000	\$90,000
FY2004	\$800,000	\$46,000
FY2005	\$821,000	\$986,000
FY2006	\$686,000	\$986,000
FY2007	\$769,000	\$250,000

Total= \$7,040,000

There are over 30 Maritime/lighthouse Museums in Michigan already

According to www.maritimemuseums.net, there are over 30 maritime/lighthouse museums in Michigan already. Furthermore, there are 4 maritime/lighthouse museums within 100 miles of Thunder Bay.

- New Presque Isle Lighthouse= 20 miles
- Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse= 95 miles
- Old Presque Isle Lighthouse= 20 miles
- Sturgeon Point Lighthouse= 35 miles

There are also two maritime museums within 150 miles that have actual a schooner and frigate that visitors can walk through.

- Maritime Heritage Alliance that has a replica schooner, “Madeline”= 135 miles
- Museum Ship Valley Camp (MI) The Museum Ship Valley Camp is located at Sault Ste. Marie, MI, where you can explore an actual lake freighter. = 150 miles

Here is a list of just a few maritime museums in Michigan:

- Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum this is an old destroyer that is in the process of being turned into a museum.= 140 miles
- Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum = 140 miles

- Great Lakes Naval Memorial & Museum at this location has a submarine and a USCG boat that visitors can tour.=280 miles

These facts illuminate the argument; it is not a top priority for the federal government to earmark \$1 million toward Thunder Bay while there are already over 30 maritime/lighthouse museums in Michigan already.

Background on Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary:

The National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) serves as the trustee for a system of 14 marine protected areas, encompassing more than 150,000 square miles of ocean and Great Lakes waters from Washington State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Ocean Service (NOS) manages the national marine sanctuaries through the authority of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act of 1972.

The Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary was designated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on October 7, 2000. It is jointly managed by the State of Michigan to protect and interpret a nationally significant collection of shipwrecks and other maritime heritage resources. While most other national marine sanctuaries regulate natural resources, the Thunder Bay solely manages maritime heritage resources.

First housed in federal building offices, the sanctuary headquarters moved in 2005 to a 20,000-square-foot state-of-the-art visitor center and research facility, the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. The 20,000 square foot Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center features: 9,000 feet of state-of-the-art shipwreck and Great Lakes exhibits, 93-seat auditorium, archaeological

conservation lab and climate controlled artifact storage, 2,000 feet of innovative education space, research facilities, and administrative space.

Counterarguments

U.S. Senator Carl Levin Foundation's Stewardship Award

To note the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation presented U.S. Senator Carl Levin with the foundation's Stewardship Award during the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center grand opening.

While the museum exhibit doesn't serve NOAA's primary mission it serves the NOAA secondary objective to educate the public about the significance of shipwrecks, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in partnership with the State of Michigan.

Thunder Bay attracts \$60,000 visitors each year and increases public awareness of the NOAA

The Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center will attract an estimated 60,000 visitors per year to Alpena, significantly increasing public awareness of NOAA and the National Marine Sanctuary Program in the Great Lakes. The center will strengthen northeastern Michigan's identity as a premier location for Great Lakes maritime heritage interpretation, research, and recreation.

As part of its mission to educate the public about the significance of shipwrecks, the NOAA, in partnership with the State of Michigan, has established the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center in Alpena, Michigan. The center promises to be a vital and popular destination for residents and visitors of all ages, allowing the public to experience and appreciate the estimated 200 shipwrecks in and around Thunder Bay.

Thunder Bay will inspire Americans to care about our oceans and Great Lakes.

Visitors will be able to explore shipwrecks in real time via live video feeds, discover the Great Lakes' rich maritime past through innovative exhibits,

and learn how underwater archaeologists work to preserve historic shipwrecks. Fostering these types of experiences is central to the National Marine Sanctuary Program's goal of inspiring Americans to care about our oceans and Great Lakes.

Amendment XXXX – Eliminate \$1.5 million for construction of the California Historic Trail Interpretive Center for exhibits, trails, and an amphitheater in Elko, Nevada

The California Trail Interpretive Center was established by Congress in 2000 and took eight years to complete. Its purpose is to “...to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in settling the western portion of the United States...”¹⁵² It aims to provide multimedia exhibits, life size dioramas, video production, and interpretive programs.

It was intended, among other things, to be an economic engine for the region.¹⁵³ **It resulted in an economic drain on the federal government.**

From 2000 to 2007 the center was earmarked a total of \$5,950,000 for construction costs through BLM. In 2008 the center received an additional \$738,300 for exhibits – a total of \$6,688,300. According to a BLM press release, the center has received a total of \$8 million from the federal government.¹⁵⁴ Now, an additional \$1.5 million has been earmarked for exhibits, trails and an amphitheater.

Left alone, the Interpretive Center is not sustainable.

Although the center was originally established as a public-private partnership, the federal government has carried the bulk of the financial costs.¹⁵⁵ Currently, their doors open only temporarily for exhibits as funding becomes available. The center’s dependency on federal funding has left it without consistent resources to carry out the original mission on a daily basis.

There is already a federal program to help fund projects like this one.

The National Park Service administers a Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) for historic trail projects such as interpretive exhibits. It is a matching fund program that is already one-third earmarked specifically for

¹⁵²Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Senate Reports: No. 106-441. Legislative History-S.2749.
<http://bulk.resource.org/gpo.gov/laws/106/publ577.106.pdf>

¹⁵³Bureau of Land Management, Elko District, Interpretive Center Briefing:
http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/nv/resources/racs/recreation_rac.Par.98612.File.dat/CaliNatI%20HistTrail_Presentation.pdf

¹⁵⁴Bureau of Land Management, Elko Field Office: California Historic Trail Center out for Bid:
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko_field_office/blm_information/newsroom/2006/California_Historic_Trail_Center_out_for_Bid.html

¹⁵⁵Legislative Information System of the U.S. Congress, the California Trail Interpretive Act (S.2794) 106th Congress:
<http://www.congress.gov/cgi-lis/query/D?c106:6:./temp/~c106wl1awH::0>

National Trails System Projects and requires a timely completion of projects – generally, less than one year.¹⁵⁶

While the California Historic Trail Interpretive Center may serve a noble purpose, Congress should not reward poor business models by continuing to serve as the center's financial lifeline.

¹⁵⁶National Park Service, Management Documents, Challenge Cost Share Program and Forms:
<http://home.nps.gov/cali/parkmgmt/index.htm>

Amendment XXXX – Strikes a \$95,000 earmark for the State of New Mexico to collect and analyze data about the need and potential locations for a dental school.

The FY 2009 omnibus appropriations bill includes an earmark for \$95,000 to the State of New Mexico to collect and analyze data about the need and potential locations for a dental school. The federal government and the American Dental Association already collect and analyze data about dental schools in every state. New Mexico already knows it needs a dental school. It does not require an earmark to decide where to put one.

This amendment strikes the earmark in order to lower spending or make funds available for higher priority, shovel-ready projects.

New Mexico Already Knows It Needs a Dental School.

According to the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, there is an identified shortage of dentists in both rural New Mexico and some urban populations - New Mexico ranks 49/50 states in per capita dentists.¹⁵⁷ New Mexico currently does not have a dental school and it has only 2 dental hygiene schools.

If New Mexico chooses to build the needed dental school, it might consider combining resources at the University of New Mexico's Health Science Center, which established a dental residency program in 2004.¹⁵⁸

There are 15 other states without dental schools, and those states have formed creative alliances to ensure access to affordable dental schools.

Prospective New Mexico dental students currently participate in the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education's (WICHE) **Professional Student Exchange Program**, which enables students in 12 western states to enroll in selected out-of-state professional programs—at 150% of in-state tuition—usually because those fields of study are not available at public institutions in their home states.¹⁵⁹

Additionally, the New Mexico Higher Education Department has arrangements with the neighboring states of Arizona, Colorado, and Texas in which New Mexico students can pay resident tuition rates at select

¹⁵⁷ <http://hsc.unm.edu/SOM/outreach/dental.shtml>

¹⁵⁸ <http://hsc.unm.edu/som/surgery/dentalservices/>

¹⁵⁹ <http://wiche.edu/sep/psep/>

colleges. In return, students from these states can attend select New Mexico colleges at the in-state tuition rates.¹⁶⁰

New Mexico Has Alternative Funding Sources That Could Be Used for This New Study.

New Mexico received \$8 million dollars in federal dollars for health facilities last year, \$2.6 million for health professions, and \$ 2 million for rural health.¹⁶¹ Over the last 10 years, New Mexico has received \$90.8 million for the purposes of health facilities, health professions, and healthcare systems.

The federal Health Resources and Services Administration has doled out more than half a billion to New Mexico over the past 10 years (\$575.1 million).¹⁶² According to the GAO, the economic stimulus package will provide \$630 million to New Mexico's Medicaid program. Those dollars can be used by the State for purposes other than the Medicaid program.

The most recent data available from the National Association of State Budget Officers indicates that the State of New Mexico has a \$671 million budget stabilization fund.¹⁶³

Instead of redundant data collection and studies, \$95,000 would go a long ways towards improving access to dental services in the state of New Mexico. There is nearly one dentist for every 1,800 Americans.¹⁶⁴ A New Mexico prospective student can get a dental education at a neighboring Texas school for \$74,000.¹⁶⁵ This earmark could be better spent by training a dentist to actually serve another 1,800 Americans.

¹⁶⁰

<http://fin.hed.state.nm.us/content.asp?CustComKey=252662&CategoryKey=254052&pn=Page&DomName=fin.hed.state.nm.us>

¹⁶¹ http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/HGDWReports/RT_App.aspx?rpt=SP

¹⁶² http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/HGDWReports/RT_App.aspx?rpt=SP

¹⁶³ <http://www.nasbo.org/Publications/PDFs/Fall2008FiscalSurvey.pdf>

¹⁶⁴ Data from the American Dental Association and the Census Bureau

¹⁶⁵ http://www.dental.uthscsa.edu/admissions/DDS_financialinfo.php

Amendment XXX – Strikes Funding for a railroad in Nevada.

The omnibus bill includes a \$475,000 earmark for a railroad that local voters rejected to pay for with local taxes. This amendment would prohibit funding for this earmark.

The railroad is set to run from Virginia City to Mound House¹⁶⁶. Mound House is a rural community that has few tourist destinations and is home to several brothel houses.

Carson City has been trying to revive the historic tracks of the V&T Railroad that was used during the Silver Rush. The belief is that the train will generate large amounts of tourists that will bring revenue to the city and local business. The 18-mile railroad, when completed, will run from Virginia City to Carson City. The project has been limited because of lack of funding since the 1990's. Recently, Carson City voters rejected a sales tax hike to help fund the tourist attraction.

The 18-mile tourist railroad will run from Virginia City to Carson City and is modeled after the original 19th-century track. About six miles of track have been completed.

Funding Projects that Local Voters Refuse to Spend Tax Revenue on is Bad Policy

¹⁶⁶ Nevada Appeal, <http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/20090124/NEWS/901249979&parentprofile=search>

Sixty one percent of Carson City voters didn't want to pay for the train, making it irresponsible to spend federal funds when the nation faces its largest deficit in our history¹⁶⁷.

- The railroad is not a transportation priority and will only be used for tourism not mass transit.
- The current reach of the railroad will only be to a town that consists of few businesses and several houses of ill repute.
- Thousands of roads and bridges throughout the country are in desperate need of repair and deserve funding priority over a locally rejected project.
- Local business that would generate revenue from the increase in tourism, then they should be willing to help fund the project.
- Nevada will receive \$200 million in Stimulus funding¹⁶⁸. The state is also expecting to get their usual \$230 million federal funding on top of the stimulus amount. Nevada Department of Transportation has a \$1 billion worth of projects that meet the stimulus requirement: projects eligible for funding must have undergone local, state and federal approval processes and have acquired rights of way¹⁶⁹.

¹⁶⁷ Nevada Appeal, <http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/20081104/NEWS/811049920&parentprofile=search>

¹⁶⁸ Las Vegas Sun, <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/feb/17/stimulus-will-net-state-200-million-transportation/>

¹⁶⁹ Reno Gazette Journal, <http://www.rgj.com/article/20090217/NEWS18/90217057>

Amendment xxxx—to strike a \$95,000 earmark for construction of the Kure Beach Oceanfront Park

The FY 2009 omnibus appropriations bill includes a \$95,000 earmark for the construction of an oceanfront park in the town of Kure Beach, North Carolina.

Although constructing an oceanfront park might be a priority for the Town of Kure Beach, Hanover County and North Carolina, at a time of ever increasing budget deficits and economic turmoil, an oceanfront park is not a national priority that necessitates a noncompetitive, federal taxpayer donation.

This amendment simply strikes this earmark from the bill to save taxpayers \$95,000.

The Town of Kure Beach has already secured millions in local, state and federal grant funding for the oceanfront park.

The town of Kure Beach in North Carolina bought an old seaside motel and related property to build a \$4.2 million oceanfront park which would include a pavilion for movies, concerts and shows, a tabletop games area, a playground area and an “open space feel of overall park design to connect a spirit and sense of place and history for residents and visitors.”¹⁷⁰ It would also include a multi-use area for temporary arts and crafts or farmers markets and porch type swings.

The town has already aggressively sought local, state and federal funding in addition to this earmark and been very successful receiving the following funding of \$1.3 million:

- \$500,000 from the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund
- \$500,000 from the New Hanover County Park Funds
- \$300,000 from Clean Water Resources

¹⁷⁰ Willard H. Killough III, “Kure Beach Moving Forward with Oceanfront Park,” *The Island Gazette*, November 5, 2008, http://www.islandgazette.net/content/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=6382&Itemid=1” All information in this section are from this story.

Additionally, the town has applied for grants of \$500,000 from the Natural Heritage Trust and \$600,000 in Coastal Area Management Act funds. Both grants have preliminarily been approved bringing total funding obtained so far to \$2.4 million or 57% of the needed funding.

Since the town of Kure Beach has shown it can compete for other grant dollars, there is no evident need to saddle taxpayers across the country with this earmark that will further contribute to the skyrocketing national debt of nearly \$11 trillion.

At the outset Town Mayor was seeking only grants and not taxpayer dollars like this earmark

According to a local newspaper article last year, the local mayor had no intention of seeding federal funding for this parochial project. The article stated, "Mayor Mac Montgomery explained early in the purchasing process the goal is to entirely offset the cost using grant funding as opposed to taxpayers dollars."¹⁷¹

Some residents do not support the project and were not given a chance to vote on it

A Kure Beach news channel reported in March 2008, that there was some local opposition to funding the oceanfront park. The news article stated, "Ray Atkinson, who has lived in Kure Beach more than 30 years, disagreed. 'I don't understand how we can afford it and keep it,' said Atkinson. 'It wasn't voted for by the townspeople and I think a lot of people are upset about it.'"¹⁷²

¹⁷¹ Willard H. Killough III, "Congressman McIntyre Visits Kure Beach To Present Funds To Police; Visit Oceanfront Park Project, *The Island Gazette*, February 6, 2008,

http://www.islandgazette.net/content/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=3533&Itemid=1

¹⁷² Andy Scherr, "Kure Beach seeks federal funding for public park," WWAY NewsChannel 3, March 8, 2008, <http://www.wwaytv3.com/node/7012/print>

Amendment XXXX- Strikes earmark for the construction of recreation and fairground area in Kotzebue, Alaska

The Fiscal Year 2009 omnibus appropriations bill includes a \$380,000 earmark for Kotzebue, Alaska, for construction of recreation and fairgrounds area. This amendment would remove this earmark.

With a population 3,135, this earmark essentially provides \$120 per Kotzebue resident for recreation

Kotzebue, Alaska, had a population of 3,135 as of 2007.¹⁷³

The \$380,000 earmark would essentially provide more than \$120 per resident of Kotzebue for a recreation and fairgrounds area.

Misplaced priorities: More than one-third of Kotzebue residents do not have jobs with 13 percent are living in poverty and Congress' answer is to give the town a fairgrounds

Like the rest of the nation, unemployment rates have been on the rise in Alaska. The state Labor Department reported in January that Alaska's unemployment rate has reached its highest level in nearly five years.¹⁷⁴

Kotzebue has been disproportionately impacted by unemployment and poverty.

Data from the U.S. Census showed 1,255 Kotzebue residents as employed. The unemployment rate at that time was 9.8 percent, although 36.78 percent of all adults were not in the work force. More than 13 percent of residents were living below the poverty level.¹⁷⁵

¹⁷³ State of Alaska Community Database Online,

http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CIS.cfm?Comm_Boro_Name=Kotzebue

¹⁷⁴ "Alaska unemployment is on the rise," Alaska Public Radio Network, January 23, 2009;

<http://aprn.org/2009/01/23/alaska-unemployment-is-on-the-rise/>

¹⁷⁵ State of Alaska Community Database Online,

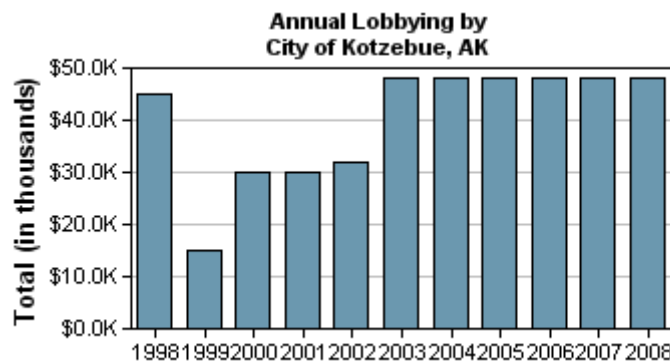
http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/commdb/CIS.cfm?Comm_Boro_Name=Kotzebue

Clearly, Kotzebue residents have far greater basic needs than the lack of a fairgrounds or other recreation.

Kotzebue has spent the same amount on lobbying in recent years as it will be earmarked for the fairgrounds in the omnibus

The city government of Kotzebue spent \$48,000 on lobbying expenditures in 2008.¹⁷⁶ Since 2000, the city has spent \$380,000 on lobbying—the same amount as the city will receive from the congressional earmark for the fairgrounds.

Had the city redirected its lobbying expenditures towards the fairgrounds project, a congressional earmark would not have been necessary and taxpayers could have been saved \$380,000.



Kotzebue has received millions of dollars in earmarks

Despite its relatively small population, Kotzebue has been the recipient of millions of dollars in congressional earmarks over the past several years. These include \$2,000,000 for a “Municipal Road Paving Project” in 2005¹⁷⁷ and \$479,000 for the Mavsigviq Family Recovery Program in 2008.¹⁷⁸

Kotzebue boasts many recreational options for residents and visitors

¹⁷⁶ <http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientsum.php?lname=City+of+Kotzebue%2C+AK&year=2008>

¹⁷⁷ http://www.earmarks.omb.gov/authorization_earmarks/earmark_187788.html

¹⁷⁸ http://www.earmarks.omb.gov/2008-earmarks/earmark_338542.html

Kotzebue has many recreational opportunities such as hiking, hunting, and a nearby national park. In fact, TripAdvisor.com notes that “if you're going to stay in town, there's plenty to see and do.”¹⁷⁹

At the nearby Kobuk Valley National Park, “boating, camping, hiking, backpacking, wildlife watching, photography, and fishing opportunities abound. With winter arctic survival skills and personal equipment, snow machining, skiing and dog mushing is also possible. Community programs are available in the summer at the Innaigvik Education and Information Center. Topics include natural and cultural history of the park, local research, local crafts and children’s activities.”¹⁸⁰

The Alaska press has criticized the fairgrounds earmark as well as other recreation projects contained within the omnibus spending bill

Last week, the *Anchorage Daily News* published an editorial critical of the congressional earmark for fairgrounds in Kotzebue as well as other frivolous Alaska projects tucked into the omnibus spending bill. The editorial pointed out:

“During the stimulus debate, Republicans made a huge fuss over the possibility that the federal money might be used for recreation projects or museums or other alleged frills. ...

“But lo and behold, it turns out those types of projects are worthy of good ol’ ordinary federal dollars. The new federal spending bill includes \$380,000 for recreation and fairgrounds work in Kotzebue and \$475,000 for the same purpose in Wrangell. ‘Adaptive and therapeutic’ recreation efforts in Alaska stand to get \$571,000 of federal money. ...

“The federal dollar that the stimulus might have spent on recreation projects is no different from the federal dollar spent on recreation in the pending appropriations bill. It all comes from the same pot of borrowed money.”¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁹ <http://www.tripadvisor.com/Travel-g60756-s4/Kotzebue:Alaska:Things.To.Do.html>

¹⁸⁰ <http://www.nps.gov/kova/planyourvisit/things2do.htm>

¹⁸¹ <http://www.adn.com/opinion/view/story/702775.html>

Anchorage Daily News (Alaska)

February 25, 2009

<http://www.adn.com/opinion/view/story/702775.html>

Our view: Sen. Murkowski doesn't worry how to pay for these goodies

It's all borrowed

"All this spending adds up, and has to be paid back -- by our children and their children." -- **Alaska U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, in her Feb. 14 national media address criticizing the federal stimulus package as too large**

Nine days after airing that complaint about the federal stimulus, U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski issued a six-page press release bragging that Congress is working on a bill that shovels \$180 million into more than 100 Alaska projects and programs.

Alaska's haul includes some things that look like the "pork" that Republicans assailed in the stimulus legislation.

The spending bill touted by Sen. Murkowski has \$332,500 to redevelop an abandoned cannery in Craig and \$665,000 for a bigger bus bay in the Mat-Su Borough. The PTA will get \$238,000 to "train parents" and a nonprofit group will get \$150,000 to "advocate for small boat community-based fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska."

During the stimulus debate, Republicans made a huge fuss over the possibility that the federal money might be used for recreation projects or museums or other alleged frills. Sen. Murkowski supported the successful move to bar any stimulus money from any "aquarium, zoo, golf course, swimming pool, stadium, community park, museum, theater, art center, and highway beautification project."

But lo and behold, it turns out those types of projects are worthy of good ol' ordinary federal dollars.

The new federal spending bill includes \$380,000 for recreation and fairgrounds work in Kotzebue and \$475,000 for the same purpose in Wrangell. "Adaptive and therapeutic" recreation efforts in Alaska stand to get \$571,000 of federal money.

As Sen. Murkowski asked in critiquing the stimulus, "Where is all of this money going to come from?"

Her press release doesn't answer the question.

She might want to remind Alaskans what she told the nation Feb. 14:

"Well, the government pays its bills by selling promissory notes and by printing money. Who will buy these notes? They will be bought by countries that already hold enormous sums of U.S. debt -- countries like China."

The federal dollar that the stimulus might have spent on recreation projects is no different from the federal dollar spent on recreation in the pending appropriations bill. It all comes from the same pot of borrowed money.

As the new spending measure moves through Congress, it will be interesting to see if Sen. Murkowski takes the same tack as she did with the stimulus. On that one, she was able to have it both ways. She voted no, looking tough on spending but safe in the knowledge the bill would pass and bring plenty of benefit back home.

BOTTOM LINE: Sen. Murkowski does not have a consistent stand on the supposed evils of big federal spending.

Amendment XXXX – Eliminates a \$2.85 million earmark for a mining and industry research and training center in West Virginia.

This amendment would save taxpayers nearly \$3 million by eliminating an earmark for a mining and industry safety, technology, and training center at Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

This earmark duplicates other non-competitive earmarks that Congress repeatedly provides to Wheeling Jesuit University.

Wheeling Jesuit University, which has 1,700 students, is already home to the Robert C. Byrd National Technology Transfer Center and the Erma Ora Byrd Center for Education Technologies. Both were funded by earmarks at their inception and have received annual earmarks. "Our notion is that earmarks are like start-up money," said J. Davitt McAteer, the university's vice president for "sponsored programs."¹⁸² Both of these centers have received millions in annual earmarks from the federal government¹⁸³, totaling at least \$35 million since 2000.¹⁸⁴

The technology transfer center in particular specializes in helping organizations implement the newest technologies and safety standards—exactly what this new center is supposed to accomplish. In fact, thanks to a \$1.2 million earmark last year, the center is already working with the Mine Safety and Health Administration at the Department of Labor on a project to develop and implement technology and safety standards related to coal impoundment.

The omnibus already provides \$15 million in new resources to programs with the exact same purposes.

It's not like this earmark addresses a gap in the system – the federal government is already engaged in extensive mining and industry safety, technology, and training efforts. These earmarked funds clearly duplicate existing programs that are competitively awarded—based on merit rather than politics.

¹⁸² USA Today, "New President Could Dam Up Money Flow to W.Va,"

http://www.usatoday.com/news/politics/election2008/2008-09-18-50states-westvirginia_N.htm

¹⁸³ USA Today, "New President Could Dam Up Money Flow to W.Va,"

http://www.usatoday.com/news/politics/election2008/2008-09-18-50states-westvirginia_N.htm

¹⁸⁴ Estimate based on earmarks found from between 2000-2008. Sources: USASpending.gov and Chronicles of Higher Education, "Congressional Earmarks for Higher Education,"

<http://chronicle.com/stats/pork/index.php?institution=&q=wheeling+jesuit&state=&agency=>

This appropriations bill already provides \$347 million for the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)—a \$15 million increase over 2008—to accelerate the implementation of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act, or “MINER Act,” of 2006. Among other things, the MINER Act requires the Department of Labor to award competitive grants for education and training programs to better identify and prevent unsafe working conditions in and around mines.

The omnibus also invests \$50 million through the CDC’s National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for mining safety and health research and training, which NIOSH awards through competitive grants.

Taxpayers should question whether they should continue to foot the bill for research centers and academic programs at Wheeling Jesuit University.

According to Citizen’s Against Government Waste, West Virginia has received \$2.26 billion in pork from 2000 to 2008.¹⁸⁵ During this same time period, Wheeling Jesuit University has received \$141 million through earmarks and other government awards¹⁸⁶, including \$4.3 million in 2008. While the federal government currently has a national debt of almost \$11 trillion, Wheeling Jesuit University on the other hand has an endowment of \$21.9 million.¹⁸⁷

This earmark appears to be *yet another* attempt to advantage the narrow interests of West Virginia above the interests of the nation.

During the recent debate over the stimulus package, we also debated a training facility for West Virginia, this time through the State Department. Members of Congress rightly excluded \$75 million that was earmarked specifically to build a new security training center in West Virginia rather than taking advantage of the dozens of other security training facilities across the country. We are again debating these same misguided priorities

¹⁸⁵ Citizens Against Government Waste,
http://www.cagw.org/site/PageServer?pagename=news_byrddroppings_porktally

¹⁸⁶ USASpending.gov, years 2000-2008, Wheeling Jesuit University,
http://www.usaspending.gov/faads/faads.php?recipient_name=wheeling+jesuit+university&sortBy=r&detail=0&datype=T&reptype=r&database=faads&fiscal_year=&submit=GO

¹⁸⁷ Peterson’s College Planner, Wheeling Jesuit University,
<http://www.petersons.com/collegeprofiles/Profile.aspx?inunid=9703&sponsor=&tabid=10009>

– catering to the parochial interests of West Virginia rather than the overall best interests of the nation.

Rather than providing funds to Wheeling Jesuit University because it is unquestionably the best place to establish this research and training center, this earmark puts politics and parochial interests above the best interests of the American people.

Amendment XXX – Eliminate a \$5.5 million earmark by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) to the Iowa Department of Education to continue the Harkin Grant Program.

Purpose of Harkin Grants

According to the Iowa Department of Education website, the Harkin Grant program is to help school districts correct fire safety problems and to help leverage local resources to construct new schools or remodel and modernize existing buildings. The funds are discretionary grants for fire safety repairs, and for the new construction, reconstruction, repairing, improving, modernizing or remodeling a schoolhouse or acquiring an existing building and converting it for use as a schoolhouse. The funds are for public school districts only.

Approximately 35 percent of the available funds are allocated each year for Life Safety Grants, which address fire safety issues, and 65 percent are allocated for School Construction and Modernization Grants.¹⁸⁸ Small school districts can apply for up to \$25,000, medium districts are eligible to receive up to \$100,000 and large school districts can apply for up to \$150,000. For School Construction and Modernization Grants, a local match of 75% is required and the maximum grant for all size districts is \$500,000.¹⁸⁹ Outdoor recreation, playgrounds, athletic complexes, gymnasium additions, or stadiums are not eligible.

The Harkin Grant Program has received nearly \$125 million in the last ten years, collecting as much as \$50 million in one year.

The Harkin Grant program, also referred to as the “Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program”, was proposed by Sen. Harkin and originally funded for \$8 million in the FY 1998 Labor/HHS/Ed Senate appropriations bill. The program has received nearly \$125 million in federal funds since its creation. The table below shows funding amounts for the past ten fiscal years:

¹⁸⁸ <http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/97/328/>

¹⁸⁹ <http://harkin.senate.gov/column.cfm?id=226604>

Fiscal Year	Amount
1998	\$ 8,000,000
1999	\$ 10,000,000
2000	\$ 9,249,813
2001	\$ 9,000,000
2002	\$ 50,000,000
2003	\$ 6,954,499
2004	\$ 6,958,699
2005	\$ 14,880,000
2008	\$ 4,694,034
Total	\$119,737,045
FY 2009 Omni Request	\$ 5,471,000
Updated Total	\$125,208,045

Harkin Grant program is “the only appropriation of its type in the nation”

An August 2006 article in *The Des Moines Register* titled, “Grouching grows in D.C. about local 'pork' projects,” notes that earmarks have played a role in congressional scandals this year and have emerged as an issue in congressional races.

The article points out the uniqueness of Harkin’s self-named grant program:¹⁹⁰

¹⁹⁰ “Grouching grows in D.C. about local 'pork' projects.” August 20, 2006. The Des Moines Register. Jane Norman. MAIN NEWS; Pg. 1A.

“One memorable year, Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Ia., obtained \$50 million that could be used to supplement local money for school construction grants called “Harkin Grants,” the only appropriation of its type in the nation... Aides say that in the past eight years, Harkin has secured \$116 million used by the state to leverage repair and modernization of schools in 260 districts.”

Amendment XXX – To eliminate a \$5.8 million earmark for the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the Senate in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus appropriations bill contains a \$5.8 million earmark for the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the Senate in Boston, MA. The funds are directed for the planning and design of a building and may include support for an endowment.

The Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the Senate is a nonprofit institute dedicated to research and education about the U.S. Senate, focusing on the political career of U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy. According to the Boston Globe, the institute will house classrooms, research areas, exhibits, a museum and a replica of the U.S. Senate chambers at a site near the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston.¹⁹¹ The center of the building is planned to be, “a shrine to the Senate, with homage to Kennedy, just as the building next door is a showcase for the presidency, with the focus on his brother John.”¹⁹²

Initial plans have been made for a 40,000-square-foot building on a 4-acre plot of land owned by the University of Massachusetts.¹⁹³ According to the Boston Globe, the University of Massachusetts is planning to issue a bond for the building, which is expected to cost \$40 million to \$50 million.

Private donations to the Kennedy Institution total \$20 million

Fundraising for the institute has been spearheaded by Boston businessman Jack Connors, who recently remarked how fruitful private donations have been:

"We're getting together a mission statement and brochure and letter and materials appropriate for captains to ask their natural

¹⁹¹ http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2008/08/12/Institute_honoring_Ted_Kennedy_envisioned/UPI-67371218564744/

¹⁹² http://www.boston.com/news/education/higher/articles/2008/08/12/kennedy_steps_up_plans_for_institute_at_umass?mode=PF

¹⁹³ http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/01/20/hospitals_firms_in_healthcare_back_kennedy_institute/

constituents to help," Connors said. "I hate to lead with my chin, but I have to say it's one of the easiest sells I've been involved in." ¹⁹⁴

The institute hopes to raise a total of \$100 million for an endowment and to pay down the debt on the University of Massachusetts building bond. Fundraisers plan to host dinners in New York, to target the financial industry and on the West Coast, to raise money from entertainment executives. According to the Boston Globe, Connors said the group may ask Kennedy's colleagues in the US Senate to call key political donors in their home states to raise money for the institute. ¹⁹⁵

Private donations include: ¹⁹⁶

- \$5 million from Amgen Inc., a national biotechnology drug firm based in California which employs a former top Kennedy aid
- \$1 million from Partners Healthcare, the Boston nonprofit corporation that is the umbrella for Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital
- \$1 million from the Dana- Farber Cancer Institute
- \$2.5 million from the Service Employees International Union
- \$1 million from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
- \$250,000 from the Novartis US Foundation
- \$200,000 from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- \$1 million from the law firm of Peter Angelos, who owns the Baltimore Orioles
- \$ 1 million from Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, which counseled Al Gore in the 2000 recount

Kennedy Institute duplicates the Capitol Visitor Center

The mission of the Kennedy Institute duplicates the Capitol Visitor Center (CVC), a \$621 million taxpayer-funded addition to the U.S. Capitol, which

¹⁹⁴ http://www.boston.com/news/education/higher/articles/2008/08/12/kennedy_steps_up_plans_for_institute_at_umass?mode=PF

¹⁹⁵ http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/01/20/hospitals_firms_in_healthcare_back_kennedy_institute/

¹⁹⁶ http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/01/20/hospitals_firms_in_healthcare_back_kennedy_institute/

opened in December 2008. According to the CVC website, the mission of the visitor center is, “to provide a welcoming and educational environment for visitors to learn about the unique characteristics of the House and the Senate and the legislative process as well as the history and development of the architecture and art of the U.S. Capitol.”¹⁹⁷

The CVC contains space for exhibits, two theaters, an auditorium, gift shops and other educational attractions for visitors and tourists to learn about Congress.¹⁹⁸ Plans for the Kennedy Institute duplicate what is currently available to tourists, visitors, scholars and historians at the CVC. American taxpayer have already funded over \$600 million to construct the CVC in Washington, D.C., and should not be forced to fund the cost of another visitor attraction just 450 miles away in Boston, M.A.

¹⁹⁷<http://www.visitthecapitol.gov/AboutTheCapitol/About%20the%20Capitol%20Visitor%20Center/Page%20-%20About%20the%20Capitol%20Visitor%20Center.html>

¹⁹⁸<http://www.visitthecapitol.gov/AboutTheCapitol/About%20the%20Capitol%20Visitor%20Center/Page%20-%20About%20the%20Capitol%20Visitor%20Center.html>

Amendment xxxx—Strikes a \$190,000 earmark for the Montana AFL-CIO for workforce development and job training

In a time of high unemployment, with many Americans and Montanans seeking job training services, Congress should not give an earmark to a state labor union with a history of mismanagement and embezzlement.

This amendment simply strikes funding for a questionable earmark that provides \$190,000 to the AFL-CIO in Montana.

The Montana AFL-CIO misused federal job-training funds to pay salaries before actually training laid off workers.

In February 2008, the Montana State Department of Labor and Industry “cut off funding and terminated” its contract with the Montana AFL-CIO on grounds of “non-performance.”¹⁹⁹ The State Labor Department found that for “every \$1 spent to help displaced workers in Montana, the AFL-CIO spent \$4.01 on its own staff salaries.”

The Montana AFL-CIO received a \$1.164 million grant administered by the state agency but funded by federal taxpayer dollars. “Because of past AFL-CIO accounting problems,” the state retained a little more than half of the funds to “serve as the program's bank account, paying the bills for the retraining costs submitted by the AFL-CIO staff.”

With 42 percent of the fiscal year left, the AFL-CIO had “only 16 percent of its budget remaining to pay staff salaries,” in contrast to 81 percent of the budget still available “to pay for services for laid off workers.”

Kieth Kelly, state Labor Commissioner, said that despite recent problems with AFL-CIO grant management, including “gross fiscal irresponsibility,” they awarded the grant to give the Montana AFL-CIO another chance. “Decent people get caught up in things. We gave them another contract, but we've got our hands on the money. We threw them a lifeline. They're kind of pulling us over and swamping the boat. We terminated it Friday

¹⁹⁹ Charles S. Johnson, “State ends AFL-CIO job retraining program,” *The Missoulian*, February 12, 2008, <http://www.missoulian.com/articles/2008/02/12/news/mtregional/news07.txt>. All quotes in this section are from this story.

immediately.” Instead of asking the Montana AFL-CIO to return the misused money, Kelly said he decided, “Let's break clear.”

The state's action to terminate the AFL-CIO's contract resulted in the loss of 8 staff assigned to the job training grant. Keeping their priorities straight, the Montana AFL-CIO's Director said the terminated contract will not affect the other four staff at Montana AFL-CIO who are involved with “political action.”

Montana AFL-CIO job training coordinator misspent federal funds to pay for step-daughter's college

A 2007 audit by the Montana State Department of Labor and Industry found that Jim Baker, former coordinator of the Montana AFL-CIO's job-training program in the Cut Bank regional office “enrolled his stepdaughter, Karol Zubach in the program” and “approved spending \$35,111 in job training money over four years to send her to college.”²⁰⁰

Zubach received “51 percent of all job retraining money spent by the Cut Bank office over four years.” The Labor Department audit found that Zubach collected “an average of \$8,778 yearly over the four years,” while other recipients “averaged only \$628 apiece annually.” Keith Kelly, state Labor Commissioner said, “That really was a blinking light for us. It sticks out like a sore thumb.”

Kelly went onto say that the investigation showed that “no one did any administration, supervision and administrative oversight.”

The audit “marks the second time in less than two years that the Labor Department has ordered the AFL-CIO to pay back federal job training money that auditors deemed misspent. In April 2006, the Labor Department ordered the federation to pay back \$47,515.”

²⁰⁰ Charles S. Johnson, “AFL-CIO ordered to repay federal job retraining funds,” *The Missoulian*, October 30, 2007, <http://www.missoulian.com/articles/2007/10/31/bnews/br57.txt>. All quotes in this section are from this story.

Taxpayers should not pay for this wasteful earmark when the national AFL-CIO has plenty of funds to help their Montana affiliate.

In 2006, the AFL-CIO reported \$96 million in assets and \$157.2 million in receipts.²⁰¹ Their top five executive officers made from \$179,000 to \$291,718 with 204 employees making more than \$75,000.

Of their disbursements, \$29,585,661, or 38.6%, went for political activities and lobbying.

²⁰¹ Figures derived from filings with the U.S. Department Of Labor.
<http://www.unionfacts.com/unions/unionFinances.cfm?id=106>. All data in this section is from this citation.

Amendment XXXX – To strike an earmark of \$190, 000 for digitization of New York Historical Society Collection

Despite congressional legislation that has already appropriated more than \$1 trillion in additional spending and close to another \$1 trillion in government loans, America's economy is hurting. Americans are looking to Congress to abandon a business-as-usual approach and extraordinary decisions that require political courage and sacrifice.

Congress cannot afford to lavish scarce taxpayer funds on parochial and non-essential interests.

This amendment would strike a low priority earmark for the digitization of a collection belonging to the New York Historical Society (NYHS), and help ensure these funds are spent on true national needs.

The NY Historical Society is a Preeminent Educational and Research Institution and Already has its Historical Records Available Online.

According to its own website, NYHS is a “preeminent educational and research institution... one of the nation’s most distinguished independent research libraries.”²⁰²

It is the oldest museum in New York as well, dating back to 1804, and houses “one of the world’s greatest collections of historical artifacts, American art and other materials documenting the history of the United States as seen through the prism of New York City and State.”²⁰³

This collection of historical artifacts can **already** be viewed online at <http://emuseum.nyhistory.org/code/emuseum.asp>. Online visitors can search for specific artifacts or browse collections online. Because of frequent updates, visitors may not find the image they are looking for.

It is unclear why a federal earmark is necessary for further digitization of these records.

²⁰² “About N-YHS,” New York Historical Society, https://www.nyhistory.org/web/default.php?section=about_nyhs
– accessed February 27, 2009

²⁰³ “About N-YHS,” New York Historical Society, https://www.nyhistory.org/web/default.php?section=about_nyhs
– accessed February 27, 2009

The NY Historical Society is An Influential and Wealthy Entity with Little Need for Federal Funding.

Located in downtown New York by Central Park, NYHS is extremely prominent and includes board members such as Governor George Pataki.

It is also a wealthy institution. According to its financial reports, in 2006 (the most recent year available online) NYHS collected revenues of \$25.497 million – \$6 million more than expenses. At the close of 2006, total assets were \$58.331 million.²⁰⁴ Despite a surplus of more than \$6 million, NYHS collected almost \$1 million in government grants in 2006. In 2005, NYHS collected \$1.376 million in government grants.²⁰⁵

According to USAspending.gov, NYHS has received \$4.754 million in federal contributions since Fiscal Year 2000,²⁰⁶ including \$106,324 for the “Promotion of the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access” in FY09.²⁰⁷

Further more, according to a 2008 *New York Times* Article, NYHS at one point was pursuing “a \$100 million, 23-story luxury condominium tower, along with a five-story annex that would have risen above an adjacent empty lot the society owns...” While strong opposition to this expansion ended this pursuit, NYHS instead “embarked on a \$55 million, three-year renovation of its galleries, entrance and facade that will create a permanent main-floor exhibition hall showcasing some of its treasures, an interactive multimedia orientation program in its auditorium, an 85-seat cafe and a below-ground children's gallery and library, society officials said.”²⁰⁸

²⁰⁴ Form 990 for the New York Historical Society, 2006,

<http://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2007/131/624/2007-131624124-046927bd-9.pdf>

²⁰⁵ Form 990 for the New York Historical Society, 2005,

<http://www.guidestar.org/FinDocuments/2006/131/624/2006-131624124-0330b59a-9.pdf>

²⁰⁶ USAspending.gov, total federal assistance FY00-FY09,

http://www.usaspending.gov/faads/faads.php?fiscal_year=&recip_id=324491&sortby=f&datatype=T&reptype=r&database=faads&detail=-1&submit=GO – accessed February 28, 2009

²⁰⁷ USAspending.gov, federal assistance FY09, http://www.usaspending.gov/faads/faads.php?reptype=r&detail=-1&datatype=T&sortby=t&database=faads&recip_id=324491&fiscal_year=2009&record_num=f500 – accessed February 28, 2009

²⁰⁸ Glenn Collins, “Historical Society Drops Bid to Build Tower,” July 9, 2008, *The New York Times*

According to the president of NYHS, the society has already raised the \$55 million cost of renovation, with a goal of \$70 million “to increase the society's endowment.”²⁰⁹

This Earmark Spends Federal Money We Do Not Have for Something We Should Not Fund

It is unclear why NYHS is in need of a \$190,000 earmark for a digital library that is already fully functional. In the past, almost half of NYHS federal funding has come in the form of grants, further calling into question the appropriateness or need for this earmark.

It is inappropriate for a preeminent institution with an endowment of \$55 million to receive scarce federal dollars in a time of great national need.

Congress, like all other Americans, must live in a world with budget limitations and prioritize only funding for truly national priorities.

²⁰⁹ Glenn Collins, “Historical Society Drops Bid to Build Tower,” July 9, 2008, The New York Times

Amendment xxxx—to strike \$200,000 included in the omnibus to cover the cost of printing the President’s budget.

The omnibus appropriations bill includes \$200,000 for the president’s Office of Management and Budget (OMB) “for the printing of paper copies of the President’s annual budget submission so that Congress can properly and thoroughly evaluate the President’s budget proposals.”

In this digital and Internet age, printing paper copies of the budget, that few Americans will actually even skim, is the classic example of how out of touch Washington is with the rest of the country.

This amendment would strike the funding provided to OMB for the cost associated with print the budget.

The previous Administration ceased printing paper copies of budget and went digital saving trees and taxpayer dollars.

In January 2008, then OMB Director Jim Nussle announced that the FY09 Budget would not be produced in hard copy print form, but would be digitally released as an “E-budget” online.

“With an estimated total of nearly 2,200 pages in the four-book budget set, and a projected order of more than 3,000 copies for the media, Capitol Hill and the White House, the E-Budget will have a 'green' focus above and beyond the fiscal sense. This step will save nearly 20 tons of paper, or roughly 480 trees.”²¹⁰

Nussle also highlighted the benefit to the American taxpayer, “In terms of fiscal savings, we estimate the E-Budget will save nearly a million dollars over the next five years.”

It is a waste of taxpayer dollars for Congress to lead the charge back to printing the budget, especially given the current Administration’s continued push for green technology and improved government technology.

²¹⁰ Statement by OMB Director Jim Nussle, January 9, 2008, https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/pubpress/2008/010908_budget.html

GPO contracts out for most of its printing and then levees a surcharge on federal agencies

In 2002, then OMB Director Mitch Daniels sought to end GPO's monopoly on printing and allow agencies to shop around for printing services. Daniels' plan would not eliminate GPO but just allow competitors to bid against GPO for the work.

In an internal memo published to the press, Daniels claimed that "GPO contracts out about 84 percent of that work to private printers. The agency includes a 7 percent to 14 percent surcharge plus other fees that cost the executive branch \$50 million to \$70 million a year."²¹¹

Daniels ran into the same roadblock that both Ronald Reagan and Al Gore ran into when they tried Daniels' idea--"a fight with legislative branch supporters of the printing office."

Why not allow private publishers to sell and ship copies to interested agencies, office holders, and citizens?

Because the federal government makes the budget available online in a PDF format, interested citizens and legislators could download the files and then upload them to any number of internet publishers and pay for the books themselves.

A quick Google search turned up one site which could print 535 copies of a 2200 page black and white book, and send it to every Congressional office in two days for a little over \$39,000, or \$68 each. Members could pay the \$68 out of their congressional allowances, which is how they pay for other publications they determine are personal office priorities. That would save taxpayers over \$160,000 and still get a hard copy in the hands of every Member of Congress who needs to use the President's Budget as a blueprint to write the federal budget.

If agencies want copies they could follow the same procedure. Every day agencies and offices are paying for publications that will assist them, but

²¹¹ Brian Friel, "OMB calls for end to printing office monopoly," *GovernmentExecutive.com*, May 6, 2002, <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0502/050602b1.htm>

they are doing so within their own budgets, why should they expect taxpayers to pick up the cost of sending them the President's proposed budget? When the federal budget and appropriations are enacted into law, agencies will have plenty of access to information on what they can spend. If they want to see what the President proposes Congress spend, they can easily access searchable and printable copies online.

If the news media really need a hard copy, they could also upload a version and get it in two days -- or faster if they pay a premium. Most Americans would agree the costs of getting a 2,200-page budget to the media should not be borne by federal taxpayers or added to the federal budget deficit.

Amendment XXX – Would Strike USAID funding for development assistance to China

The State - Foreign Operations appropriations section of the omnibus funds its programs at **\$36.6 billion** – \$3.8 billion (12%) above 2008 levels. Many of these programs are wasteful, duplicative, and do nothing to further the national interest of the United States. Specifically, the bill includes \$11 million for development assistance to the country of China.

The United States funds development assistance operations in many countries. Some of these countries are extremely poor, while others, such as China, can certainly afford to fund their own development.

This amendment will strike the \$11 million in development assistance to China.²¹²

China should pay for its own development programs.

As late as August of last year, China recorded record budget surpluses of over 1 trillion yuan (\$146 billion).²¹³

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recently went to China to plead with them to continue to purchase U.S. Treasury instruments. She said “The US needs the investment in Treasury bonds to shore up its economy to continue to buy Chinese products.”²¹⁴

The Chinese economy is expected to grow at a rate of 6% this year after growing 9% in 2008, while the United States economy has shrank by more than that amount.²¹⁵

²¹² Division H – Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009. Section 7071, Page 178.

²¹³ China's budget surplus makes room for tax reduction. http://www.thefinancialexpress-bd.info/search_index.php?page=detail_news&news_id=42531.

²¹⁴ Clinton wraps Asia trip by asking China to buy US debt.

http://www.breitbart.com/article.php?id=CNG.42a44b0f5d9cf5c9762e80574e79a3d5.831&show_article=1

²¹⁵ China tipped to recover in second half of 2009

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/business/story/0,28124,25123446-36418,00.html>.

China pays for development assistance to other countries. In the last month President Hu Jintao promised to double aid for Africa and expand plans for debt forgiveness to those countries.²¹⁶

With the economy shrinking, unemployment skyrocketing, and deficit ballooning, USAID development programs to a country we are borrowing trillions from and provides its own aid to needy countries is not a priority.

The programs funded by USAID to China are of questionable value.

USAID's China country profile claims credit for "training [Tibetan] youths to become Thangka painters, ensuring that this traditional style of Buddhist painting is not lost."²¹⁷

Other programs include water quality protection in southwestern China, a partnership for environmental law with Vermont Law School, training for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and assisting Tibetan artisans market their products.⁶

In 2008, USAID funded efforts to make Chinese buildings more energy efficient. The projects aim is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases by reducing energy use, and support China's domestic strategy for reducing energy use by 20 percent by 2010. The combined value of the awards is US \$2.97 million.²¹⁸

²¹⁶ Chinese president vows to increase aid to Africa. http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-02/13/content_10810653.htm

²¹⁷ China Country Profile. United States Agency for International Development. <http://www.usaid.gov/locations/asia/countries/china/>.

²¹⁸ State and USAID spend borrowed money from China to make "green improvements" to Chinese cities. http://coburn.senate.gov/ffm/index.cfm?FuseAction=LatestNews.NewsStories&ContentRecord_id=88c2064f-802a-23ad-4c0b-4a4f36a1413e.

Amendment XXXX - Ensures that conservation funding can be prioritized to fix crumbling dams across the nation.

The lives and property of many Americans are threatened by inflexible federal conservation program guidelines that fail to prioritize the rehabilitation of crumbling flood control (“watershed”) structures.

Congress has created several programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) intended to promote soil conservation and protect millions of acres of farmland across the nation, including the construction small watershed dams. Yet, conservation leaders in each state are unable to prioritize conservation funding to fix aging dams.

This amendment is simple. State conservationists will be allowed to spend dollars appropriated for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), where necessary, to rehabilitate higher priority dam rehabilitation projects.

Federally funded watershed structures provide high priority protection for America’s farmers and ranchers, and offer significant environmental protection.

Since 1948, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has assisted in the construction of over 11,000 flood control dams in 47 states, protecting over 2000 watersheds.²¹⁹

Federal investments of \$15 billion are protecting over 48 million Americans.²²⁰

²¹⁹ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Watershed Rehabilitation Information, <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WSRehab/index.html>.

²²⁰ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Watershed Projects: Helping Communities Solve Natural Resource Issues,” <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/watershedbenefits.pdf>.

Over 150,000 farms and ranches are protected by these structures. Additionally, the structures reduce soil erosion by nearly 90 million tons annually and conserve nearly 2 million acre feet of water per year. An estimated 200,000 acres of wetlands have been created by the structures, and over 9 million acres of wildlife habitat have been created or improved.²²¹

Many of the watershed projects have reached, or are nearing, the end of the designed fifty lifespan, threatening million of acres of land.

Within the next twelve years, more than 65 percent of all the watershed dams will be over fifty years old.²²²

Oklahoma, alone, has nearly 100 dams that are more than 45 years old.²²³ By 2012, Texas will have 342 dams over the age of fifty.²²⁴

As of FY 2005, unfunded federal commitments on these watershed projects stood at \$1.8 billion. This includes \$436 million in Texas, \$77 million in Virginia, \$245 million in Mississippi, \$237 million in Oklahoma, and over \$80 million each in Illinois and Missouri.²²⁵

In Texas alone, 30 sites are considered to have “medium to high failure potential.”²²⁶

²²¹ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Watershed Projects: Helping Communities Solve Natural Resource Issues,” <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/watershedbenefits.pdf>.

²²² Hudock, Gregg and Russell Morgan; Civil Engineering News: “Flood Management: The Race to Rehab,” September 1, 2006, <http://www.cenews.com/article.asp?id=1121>.

²²³ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Dams in Danger, People at Risk,” http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WSRehab/dams_in_danger/20_DAMS/Oklahoma.pdf.

²²⁴ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Dams in Danger, People at Risk,” http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WSRehab/dams_in_danger/20_DAMS/Texas.pdf.

²²⁵ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Watershed Protection and Flood prevention Program Unfunded Federal Commitment September 30, 2005,” <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/watershed/05WSHD/Backlog11-10-05.pdf>.

²²⁶ United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service: “Water Resource Activities in Texas,” ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/TX/prgmsdocs/watershed/Watershed%20Program_10_07.pdf.

USDA State Conservationists should have the flexibility to transfer funds from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), to meet high priority dam rehabilitation needs.

EQIP is a voluntary program that allows USDA-NRCS to pay up to \$450,000 to a farmer or rancher over five years, for up to 75 percent (can be increased to 90 percent in some instances) of costs to “implement conservation practices.”

Examples of practices subsidized by EQIP include fencing, livestock watering (ponds), irrigation systems, tillage equipment, and grass buffers.²²⁷

Total EQIP funding is an estimated \$1 billion annually.

The current bill appropriates just \$40 million for dam rehabilitation projects.

This amendment does not eliminate EQIP funding.

EQIP will continue as a major conservation program. This amendment simply allows USDA to prioritize dam rehabilitation in those states where it is most urgently needed.

While assisting landowners in the purchase of new fences, for example, may be important, local conservation leaders should have the flexibility to prioritize a portion of funding to fix aging dams that threaten life, limb, or property.

²²⁷ Texas Parks and Wildlife, “2008 Farm Bill Programs,” Last Accessed on March 1, 2009, <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/private/farbill/eqip/>.

Amendment XXX — Requires the heads of all agencies funded under this Act to submit quarterly reports to their Inspector Generals (or to Congress in the absence of agency Inspector Generals) regarding each conference with a cost exceeding \$20,000.

In the Department of Justice (DoJ) section of Division B of the FY 2009 omnibus appropriations bill, the DOJ Inspector General is directed to report to Congress information regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference it holds during the year. Although this is a great step in the direction of transparency regarding conference travel for federal employees, this is the only section in the bill that requires such oversight.

This amendment would require that every federal department funded in this omnibus appropriations bill be subject to the same conference reporting requirements placed on DoJ.

Excessive spending to send federal employees to lavish conferences is not a good use of taxpayer dollars in a struggling economy and is not a federal priority.

Given the difficult economic times our country currently faces, it is even more important to be good stewards of our limited taxpayer dollars. One area that deserves scrutiny and extensive congressional oversight is federal conference expenditures.

Federal agency conference spending exceeded \$2 billion from 2000 through 2006, increasing over 95 percent, from over \$200 million a year in FY2000 to almost \$400 million a year in FY2006.²²⁸ This does not include the costs from various independent federal agencies, nor the productivity losses when government employees are out of the office on non-essential travel.

²²⁸ Based on conference expenditure figures from fiscal year 2000 through 2006, provided by individual agencies in response to the U.S. Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information and International Security oversight requests. The Departments of Veterans Affairs and Interior did not submit data for a combined nine years of conferences so these figures (other than those for FY06) are likely understated.

While some may be necessary and justified, federally sponsored conferences should not become luxury junkets with sky-rocketing costs, especially when less expensive alternatives may exist.

Even the President recently talked about not spending taxpayers' money for these kinds of trips. During his town hall meeting in Elkhart, Indiana, President Obama stated "You can't take a trip to Las Vegas or go down to the Super Bowl on the taxpayers' dime."

Yet, this kind of travelling is exactly what agencies are planning on doing this year. While Las Vegas, or any other location, does not deserve to be unfairly singled out, we cannot expect taxpayers to pick up the tab for spa and golf resorts, especially when businesses and families across the country are being asked to spend responsibly.

By requiring details on conferences costing taxpayers over \$20,000, this amendment will begin to shine light on an area of government spending that quickly adds up but often escapes scrutiny. These quarterly reports will include such items as the numbers of federal employees attending, the costs of food and audio-visual services, and whether or not the contracts were awarded in a competitive-bidding process.

The underlying bill requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to report on its conferences exceeding \$20,000, and this provision merely extends the reporting agencies to all those funded under the bill.

Are DOJ's \$4 Meatballs and \$13,000 on Dessert the Norm or the Exception?

DOJ spent approximately \$312 million on conferences between 2000 and 2006.²²⁹ The annual amount has more than doubled during this period,

²²⁹ "Justice Denied: Waste & Mismanagement at the Department of Justice," oversight report issued by Senator Coburn October 2008, http://coburn.senate.gov/ffm/index.cfm?FuseAction=FFMOversightIssues.View&ContentRecord_id=440e21fb-802a-23ad-4d8c-a612e6dee650.

rising steadily from \$34 million in 2000 to nearly \$58 million in 2004, shrinking slightly in 2006 to \$46 million. In 2006, DOJ sent 26,164 employees to 2,199 conferences, according to information provided to Senate oversight investigators.²³⁰

DOJ's Office of Inspector General (OIG) recent report on DOJ's conference spending noted the agency spent \$4-a-piece for Swedish meatballs, along with butterfly shrimp and coconut lobster skewers for a "networking" session at a 2006 conference.²³¹ The DOJ conference's catering cost: \$60,000. Another \$13,000 was spent on cookies and brownies for 1,542 people who attended a four-day "Weed and Seed" conference in August 2005, according to the OIG audit.²³² A movie-themed party also saw DOJ officials spending \$25 a participant to hand out snacks.²³³

Is DOJ's spending the norm across all agencies or is it an exception? This amendment extending reports on expensive conferences across all agencies, and not just for DOJ, will allow the Inspector Generals to help quantify where conference dollars are going and assist congressional oversight committees with possible reform measures.

How Many Conferences in Hawaii or at Resorts Are Needed and Necessary?

There is a general lack of accounting and accountability on conference spending, government wide. DOJ is not alone in reporting questionable conference spending.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) spent over \$19 million on conferences in 2006.²³⁴ That year, it sent 20,959 employees to 6,719

²³⁰ Ibid.

²³¹ Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) conference as detailed in "DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES," Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General Audit Division, Audit Report 07-42, September 2007; <http://www.usdoj.gov/oig/reports/plus/a0742/final.pdf>.

²³² Ibid.

²³³ "Snacks Take Big Bite Out of DOJ Budget," *Washington Post/Associated Press*, September 14, 2007.

²³⁴ "For the Farmers or for Fun: USDA Spends Over \$90 Million in Conference Costs," oversight report issued by Senator Coburn in May 2008, http://coburn.senate.gov/ffm/index.cfm?FuseAction=FFMOversightIssues.View&ContentRecord_id=ea3eda54-802a-23ad-4117-a374da6e103c.

conferences and training activities across the nation and around the world (a 191 percent increase since 2000).²³⁵ Twenty-eight of those conferences were in Hawaii, which gives the appearance of a “spring break” mentality for federal employees.²³⁶

Government oversight investigators also discovered that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spent \$45 million for conferences, including those featuring prostitutes, protests, and beach parties.²³⁷

Taxpayers need to see that their hard-earned dollars are not being spent on non-essential conferences and conference travel. An amendment requiring all agencies to shed light on conference spending is an important first step.

DoJ Conference Reporting Requirements

This language in the DoJ section of the omnibus requires DoJ to disclose various expenditures relating to conferences held by the agency throughout the year. This language would be applied to every agency included in the omnibus.

Sec. ____ (a) Each Secretary and head of an independent or related agencies funded under this Act shall submit quarterly reports to the Inspector General (IG) of his or her Department or, if an IG position does not exist within the agency, directly to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee, regarding the costs and contracting procedures relating to each conference held by his or her Department or independent and related agency during fiscal year 2009 for which the cost to the Government was more than \$20,000.

(b) Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include, for each conference described in that subsection held during the applicable quarter--

(1) a description of the subject of and number of participants attending that conference;

²³⁵ USDA's February 5, 2007 response to Ranking Member Senator Tom Coburn regarding FY2006 Conference and Training Activity, pages 1 through 254.

²³⁶ Ibid.

²³⁷ “CDC Off Center,” oversight report issued by Senator Coburn in June 2007,

http://coburn.senate.gov/ffm/index.cfm?FuseAction=OversightAction.View&ContentRecord_id=bf7e1789-802a-23ad-42e1-57d542e77901.

(2) a detailed statement of the costs to the Government relating to that conference, including--

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services; and

(C) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to that conference; and

(3) a description of the contracting procedures relating to that conference, including--

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis for that conference; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the Department or independent or related agency in evaluating potential contractors for that conference.

