

REID OMNIBUS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Majority Leader Harry Reid has indicated he plans to file cloture on the motion to proceed to the “Coburn package.” The legislation is a compilation of 35 different bills, many being held by Senator Coburn and other senators because of policy and fiscal concerns. This will be the second time Senator Reid has attempted to move to this legislation. In July, the Senate defeated cloture on the motion to proceed to this bill by a vote of [52-40](#).

At a time when Americans are struggling to afford rising gas and food prices and worrying about the uncertainty of Wall Street and out of control government spending, Senator Reid plans to use the Senate’s time to debate a bill that does not address a single one of these important issues. In addition, with the new fiscal year only two weeks away, Congress has failed to pass even one appropriations bill needed to fund general government operations.

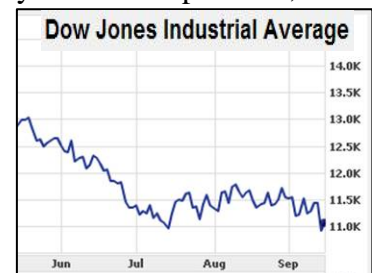


Despite these pressing issues that should be addressed by Congress before adjourning for the year, Senator Reid will force the Senate to consider a 398 page bill that spends \$10 billion of our grandchildren’s money, creates at least 35 new federal programs, and prioritizes the parochial wishes of many senators above the true needs of the American people.



The Captive Primates Safety Act (S. 1498) is just one example of the misplaced priorities included in this legislation. The bill would make it illegal to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase nonhuman primates (such as monkeys and apes), costing taxpayers \$17 million over the next five years.

The Reid omnibus also includes the largest earmark in congressional history-\$1.5 billion for the DC subway, a provision to study historic shipwrecks, and a bill to spend \$12 million on a botanical greenhouse in Suitland, Maryland. While these bills may be a priority for a few senators, it is most certainly not a priority for most Americans when compared to rising energy costs, increasing food prices, and impending financial uncertainty.



While some of the individual bills included in the Reid omnibus attempt to address important issues for many Americans, such as those suffering from the effects of strokes and paralysis, it does so ineffectively, by duplicating spending and existing programs that have not demonstrated true results. The Reid omnibus places the Senate’s priorities above the true needs of this nation. The bill does so at the expense of every single taxpayer who is watching more and more of their family budget be siphoned away by taxes and inflation, only to be wasted by a federal government that can’t even balance its own budget.

REID OMNIBUS: BY THE NUMBERS

- 0** – Provisions increasing the American energy supply
- \$3.83** – Average cost for a gallon of gas
- 9** – Percentage of Americans who approve of Congress
- 13** -- Average number of injuries caused to human caused by captive chimps in the U.S. every year
- 35** – Bills included in the omnibus
- 36** – New government programs
- 43** – Required reports to Congress from agencies and other entities
- 398** – Pages of legislative text
- 855** – Bills passed by secret without debate, amendments, or votes this Congress
- \$5 million** – Earmark for a museum in Poland
- \$12 Million** – Earmark for a greenhouse in Maryland
- \$17 million** -- Funding to protect Americans from injuries resulting from chimps and other non-human primates
- 111 Million** – Households in America worried about gas prices
- \$1.5 Billion** – Earmark for the DC Metro (\$2,066 per rider)
- \$10 Billion** – Total cost to taxpayers

What Does \$10 Billion Mean for 111 Million American Families?

- 27 gallons of milk – a half gallon every week for a year
- 84 loaves of bread - a loaf a week for a year and half
- 321 diapers – a diaper a day for almost an entire year