

AMENDMENT 221 -- REDUCES THE COST OF NON-ESSENTIAL NEW VEHICLES PURCHASED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SAVING AT LEAST \$1.8 BILLION

With a \$14.3 trillion dollar debt, the Congress and the Federal government need to spend taxpayer dollars more efficiently and reduce costs during these tough fiscal times.

This proposal would save at least \$1.8 billion by trimming the cost of the federal vehicle fleet.

The National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform strongly endorsed reducing the federal vehicle by 20%.

Simply, this amendment will do what most American families are doing on a day to day basis.

The federal government has to learn to do more with less.

The federal vehicle fleet has grown tremendously over the past five years

There are 662,000 cars,¹ vans, sport-utility vehicles, trucks, buses and ambulances owned or leased by federal agencies. This number included all civilian and non-tactical military vehicles.²

According to the Government Accountability Office, these vehicles consume about a million gallons of fuel per day.

Since 2006, the number of vehicles owned or leased by the federal government has grown by 5% or 32,000.

The average civilian agency vehicle is 5.5 years old and military vehicles are 8 years old.

¹ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>. This is from the 2010 Federal Fleet report.

² <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11318sp.pdf>.

About 63,794 vehicles were purchased in FY 2010 by government agencies.³

Around 35,000 vehicles were purchased by civilian agencies and 25,000 non-tactical vehicles from the military.⁴

The U.S. Government spent \$1.2 billion on purchasing 414 million gallons of fuel used in government vehicles that drove 5.1 billion miles.⁵

This amendment would not prevent any agency from purchasing mission-critical vehicles

Many agencies need vehicles to perform their official government duties.

This amendment allows agencies to exempt vehicle purchases critical for national security reasons.

In 2009, the Air Force demonstrated that agencies can do what this amendment calls for. It was able to reduce its non-tactical vehicle fleet by more than 3,250, without reducing its ability to conduct its mission.⁶

It is unclear why some agencies need many of the vehicles they already own.

For example, why does both the National Science Foundation and Broadcasting Board of Governors need 53 SUVs.⁷

Why does the Federal Housing Finance Agency need 6 SUVs and the Small Business Administration need 13 SUVs?⁸

³ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>

⁴ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>. This is from the 2010 Federal Fleet report

⁵ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>

⁶ <http://www.gsa.gov/graphics/ogp/FederalFleetReport2009rev.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>

⁸ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>

It is essential that every agency purchase and keep only those vehicles they need, and not also those that they merely want.

This amendment would reduce the federal vehicle budget over the next two years by 20 percent

In 2010, the federal vehicle budget was \$4.6 billion.

That budget has increased by more than a billion dollars since 2006.⁹

\$1.8 billion was spent in 2010 for the civilian agencies vehicle fleet; \$1.6 for the U.S. Postal Service and \$1.1 billion for the military.¹⁰

This amendment would reduce the federal vehicle budget in 2011 from \$4.6 billion¹¹ to \$3.6 billion.

The budget would remain at \$3.6 billion for the next two years.

The total savings over two years would be nearly \$1.8 billion.

This amendment would also request each Office of the Inspector General to help find further savings.

The amendment would ask the Inspector General for each federal agency to review the use of their respective agencies vehicles as part of the effort to find further savings.

The Inspector General of each department and agency shall review its respective agencies system for monitoring the use of motor vehicle owned or leased by the Government for non-official use, including a review of the “written authorizations within the agency” to monitor the use of motor vehicles in each agencies fleet, as required under law and report back to congress in six months.

⁹ http://www.gsa.gov/graphics/ogp/FFR2006_030707_R20065S-s_0Z5RDZ-i34K-pR.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>. This is from the 2010 Federal Fleet report.

¹¹ <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/102943#<!--010-->Federal Fleet Reports>