

# AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY®

June 16, 2010

Dear Congressman Tom Price and the Republican Study Committee,

On behalf of more than one million Americans for Prosperity activists, I am grateful for your efforts to pass a sensible budget this year. Crafting the nation's fiscal framework is one of the most basic functions of Congress, and it's egregious that the ruling party has abdicated this responsibility.

The country's tax code stands at the edge of a perilous cliff. The 2001 and 2003 tax cuts are set to expire and rates will drastically increase. Businesses that are working diligently to dig out of the recession simply cannot take another body blow. Increases in distortionary taxes like marginal rates, capital gains and the death tax will dissuade much-needed investment and keep employment rolls from growing. Your proposal to freeze these taxes at their current rate is an important step in supporting the nation's recovery.

Additionally, your proposal to permanently fix the flawed AMT is long overdue. This provision is used as a political football every year to play games with the budget process and hide the true costs of legislation. This process must end. The AMT was never meant to hit the millions of middle class filers that it now threatens. Enacting a permanent AMT fix is simply good governance.

It's also refreshing to see that your Committee has proposed several initiatives to actually attack wasteful spending, instead of just talking about it. From creating the Sunset Caucus, to your proposal that each committee find waste equal to one percent of mandatory spending, you have started to move in the right direction. No one should be fooled into thinking that these cuts will solve our fiscal woes. However, without taking first steps to address frivolous and duplicative spending, we will never create a culture of responsibility and accountability in our budget process.

Congress has a responsibility to the American people to pass a budget. Failure to budget *is* failure to govern. Americans for Prosperity looks forward to working with you on this effort.

Sincerely,



James Valvo  
Government Affairs Manager  
Americans for Prosperity

*Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best way to safeguard individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth, and returning government to its constitutional limits. AFP has more than one million members, including members in all 50 states, and 30 state chapters and affiliates. More than 60,000 Americans in all 50 states have made a financial investment in AFP or AFP Foundation. For more information, visit [www.americansforprosperity.org](http://www.americansforprosperity.org)*