RSC
Republican Study Committee

Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), M.D., Chairman
Paul Teller, Executive Director

Budget and Spending Task Force
Weekly Report

Congressman Jim Jordan (R-OH), Chairman   **June 16, 2010**

Lamborn to Introduce Bill Eliminating PBS Taxpayer Subsidies

The Public Broadcasting Service, which broadcasts many popular television programs, already receives about 85% of its budget from non-federal sources of support: viewer donations, local governments, and universities. Given the popularity of much of its programming (such as Sesame Street), PBS does not need federal subsidies. Representative Lamborn will introduce legislation that eliminates taxpayer subsidies for this purpose. This legislation would save taxpayers $420 million annually. **Action Item:** RSC Members are encouraged to cosponsor this RSC Sunset Caucus bill eliminating subsidies for PBS. To cosponsor the legislation contact Rachel.Lee@mail.house.gov of Rep. Lamborn's office.

YouCut Participants Vote to Dispose of Excess Federal Property

Last week, *YouCut* participants voted to select Rep. Chaffetz's (R-UT) RSC Sunset Caucus bill to dispose of excess federal land. In a 1997 report submitted to Congress by President Bill Clinton's Department of the Interior, the Department identified approximately 3.3 million acres of federal land as suitable for disposal. The federal government already owns an estimated 660 million acres of land, 90% of which is owned in the Western United States. Disposal of these lands would alleviate the burdens state and local governments experience because of this vast federal presence. It would also save taxpayers approximately $15 billion over ten years. Unfortunately, House Democrats refused to approve this option to reduce the deficit.

> **Quote of the Week:**
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> *"Hoyer said that House Democratic leaders would like to pass the budget resolution by **March 26**, the day Congress begins a two-week Easter recess."*
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> **-Market News International,** 3/09/2010
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> **Fact of the Week:** It is now **_61 days_** past the deadline for passage of the FY 2011 budget resolution.

Support for RSC Balanced Budget

The RSC balanced budget plan (H.Con.Res. 281) has received the endorsements of the **National Taxpayers Union**, **Club for Growth**, **Americans for Prosperity**, and **Americans for Tax Reform**. **Heritage Foundation** analysts have also written favorably about many of the components of the RSC plan.   The RSC budget improves the budget outlook in every year, gets to a budget surplus by 2019, and leads to $6.4 trillion less debt over ten years compared to the President's budget.

$33 Billion Bailout Fund Bill on Floor This Week

This week, the House is considering H.R. 5297, the Small Business Lending Fund Act. This legislation creates the Small Business Lending Fund (SBLF), which would be authorized to make up to $30 billion of total capital investments in financial institutions with total assets of less than $10 billion. The legislation also creates the Small Business Credit Initiative to allocate $2 billion to states that have created programs intended to increase the amount of capital made available by private lenders to small businesses. This would provide incentives for states to adopt bad policies, and punishes states that are frugal—turning the concept of federalism on its head. The bill also creates a $1 billion Small Business Early Stage Investment Program.

CPSC Rejects Effort to Save Taxpayer Money

This month, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) faced a decision about what to do with $7.1 million of unspent funding out of a budget for the commission of $118 million. Commissioner Anne Northup (former RSC Member) proposed to give the money back to the Treasury so it could be used for deficit reduction. This would have reduced the commission's budget by 6%. And though the $7.1 million figure is very small relative the $3.6 trillion federal budget, if similar measures were adopted across all agencies, it would have a significant impact. Unfortunately, Northup's colleagues did not approve the reduction, and it was rejected by a vote of 4 to 1.