



- HOME
- ABOUT MICHAEL
- CONSTITUENT SERVICES
- CONTACT
- DISTRICT
- ISSUES
- NEWSROOM



Washington, DC  
 131 Cannon HOB  
 Washington, DC 20515  
 202.225.2401

Austin, TX  
 5929 Balcones Dr. Suite 305  
 Austin, TX 78731  
 512.473.2357

Brenham, TX  
 2000 S. Market Street,  
 Suite 303  
 Brenham, TX 77833  
 979.830.8497

Katy, TX  
 1550 Foxlake, Suite 114  
 Houston, TX 77084  
 281.398.1247



January 30, 2009

Dear Friends,

This week I voted against the Democrats' \$819 billion spending bill because it didn't create enough jobs and spent too much money on pork projects that our children and their children will have to pay for. I was part of a bipartisan stand against a partisan bill.

We can't borrow and spend our way out of this. We need permanent tax cuts for a long term recovery of our economy. The same tax policies advocated by Presidents Kennedy and Reagan that history proves works. We need to stimulate the economy not the government. Businesses create jobs, and they have the ability to do so quickly in the right environment.

While I supported some provisions in the bill, including the tax cuts, infrastructure investments and research dollars for science and alternative energy, I cannot support legislation that only dedicates 2.7 percent to small business tax relief. And while transportation infrastructure has bipartisan support as a job creator, road and highway spending accounts for only 3 percent of the bill.

**The Pork**

In contrast, among the hundreds of billions of dollars in non-stimulus spending is a laundry list of non-job creating projects. Things like the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, and \$2 billion for national parks (even though the chief lobbyist for the National Parks Conservation Association is the son of the House Appropriations Committee Chairman who controls what's in the bill). Some of them are worthy of funding. But they should be addressed in separate legislation. Here's a short list:

- \$335 million for Sexually Transmitted Disease education and prevention
- Up to \$5 billion for liberal activist group ACORN
- \$80 billion for refundable tax-credits directly to individuals, even if they pay no taxes.
- \$1 billion for the 2010 census
- \$600 million for new cars for the federal government
- \$44 million for repairs to U.S. Department of Agriculture headquarters

Tomball, TX  
990 Village Square, Suite B  
Tomball, TX 77375  
281.255.8372

- \$200 million for the National Mall

The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office acknowledges that most of the money in the bill won't be spent until at least 2011 – long after the recession is predicted to subside. Only \$144 billion would be spent on infrastructure to create jobs and stimulate the economy in 2009 and 2010.

### **Twice the Jobs, Half the Cost**

I co-sponsored an alternative bill that creates twice the jobs at half the cost. Economic models from President Obama's own advisors indicate the Economic Recovery and Middle-Class Tax Relief Act of 2009 (H.R. 470) would create 6.2 million jobs over the next two years. This package would provide an immediate economic jolt, and lay the groundwork for sustained economic growth primarily through changes in the tax code that affect families as well as job providers. The Act includes:

- A 5 percent across-the-board income tax cut and a lower rate on Capital Gains to encourage private investment
- Encourage business growth by allowing businesses to immediately deduct from their taxes the cost of assets they purchase, instead of extending those deductions over several years
- Increase by 50 percent the tax deductions on student loans and qualified higher education expenses
- Research and development tax credits

I appreciate President Obama's effort to meet with me and other House Republicans to gain support. But it was his own party's House leadership that fell short. If you take away the pork spending and leave the job creators, there's a good chance I would have voted in favor of this bill.

### **In the News**

*Please see the following news story in the Austin American-Statesman that featured Congressman McCaul discussing the stimulus bill.*

[House passes \\$819 billion stimulus package, but huge economic recovery plan wins not a single Republican vote](#)

***Attached to this email is an audio file with Congressman McCaul's interview on KLBJ AM radio.***



Congressman McCaul visits with Harvey Laas, Associate Director of the Fort Bend Family Health Center, Inc., at the National Rural Health Association reception in Washington, D.C. this week.



Congressman McCaul met with Lt. General Charles Rodriguez, the Adjutant General of the State of Texas, and Major General John Furlow, this week in Washington, D.C., to discuss the Texas National Guard, border issues and investments in our military to provide our brave men and women in uniform the equipment they need.

### **District 10 Listening Posts**

Once again, I would like to encourage residents of TX-10 to stop by one of the upcoming "Listening Posts" to visit with my staff about federal issues. This is a valuable opportunity for constituents to discuss federal issues that I am able to address at the Congressional level. I encourage all of you to drop by to ask questions, voice concerns, or simply

introduce yourself.

**Brenham Listening Post (Please note new time)**

Brenham Court House  
Monday, Feb. 2, **10 a.m.-noon**  
100 E. Main, Suite 103

**Bellville Listening Post (Please note new time)**

Bellville Commissioner's Courtroom  
Monday, Feb. 2, **2-4 p.m.**  
1 E. Main, Bellville

**Pflugerville Listening Post**

Friday, Feb. 6, 12:30-2:30 pm  
Pflugerville Public Library  
102 S. 10th Street

I wish you and your family a happy and safe weekend.

With best regards,



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress

**\*\* If you would like to register to receive the McCaul Minute click [here](#)**