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## **COSPONSOR SPENDING LIMIT AMENDMENT**

Dear Colleague,

At what point do we admit that federal spending is out of control? The amount government spends annually per household has risen from \$19,000 in 2000 to \$24,000 in 2007—an increase of more than 25%. This is the highest level of spending per household since World War II. The federal budget cannot grow faster than the American families' ability to pay for it.

The projected growth of federal spending is simply unsustainable, threatening the standard of living of our children and grandchildren. By 2040, taxes would have to double in order to pay for all of the spending that will compound if the federal budget is simply left on automatic pilot—and that's if no more additional spending is created. Unfortunately, time and time again Congress has failed to enact the sort of reforms that would prevent this from becoming a reality.

The Republican Study Committee believes that the stakes could not be higher and will introduce an amendment to the U.S. Constitution establishing a limit on federal spending. The limit would prohibit federal spending from growing faster than the economy. While it could be suspended if a declaration of war is in effect, or by a two-third vote of Congress, the spending limit is meant to provide real restraint and encompasses all federal spending. In short, the Spending Limit Amendment would be aimed at checking Congress's ability to over-spend.

Although there is no substitute for our collective courage when considering specific spending proposals, the Spending Limit Amendment will prove a powerful and essential tool for ensuring fiscal discipline by transforming a system rigged to spend more at the expense of the American family. Please do not hesitate to contact Brad Watson (RSC) at x6-9719 should you have any additional questions or wish to cosponsor this legislation.

Sincerely,

JEB HENSARLING  
Member of Congress

JOHN CAMPBELL  
Member of Congress