



Sunset Caucus

Waste Action Alert

A publication of the RSC Sunset Caucus from co-chairs Kevin Brady (R-TX) and Jason Chaffetz (R-UT)
Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), RSC Chairman

Limitations on Bills Establishing New Programs

July 28, 2010

Program or Item Targeted: Old programs that have out lived their usefulness.

How this Program Saves Money: For every new federal program created at least one other federal program, of equal or greater cost, should be eliminated.

Background on Program: The current budget path of the United States is unsustainable and we currently face a projected national debt of \$20,000,000,000,000 by 2020. Congress needs to demonstrate to the people of the United States that it will not return to the failed fiscal policies of the past by attempting to solve budgetary problems by raising taxes to pay for new programs and more spending. A real solution to the Federal budget deficit must consist of the curtailment of unnecessary federal programs, which are currently costing taxpayers billions of dollars. A strong commitment to reining in wasteful government spending must be shown. Congress must do a better job of establishing priorities for federal programs, and Congress should only enact a new federal program if Congress considers the program to be a higher priority than a current program of at least equal cost.

Our country is at a fiscal crossroads and tough decisions must be made. Commitment to spending restraint and controlling the size of government are principles that should be embraced. Congress should refrain from passing any legislation that would create new federal programs without providing for direct dollar-for-dollar and program-for-program offsets. Increasing the size of government with new federal programs will defeat any effort by Congress to reduce federal spending.

MEMBER ACTION ITEM: Rep. Conaway has introduced H.Res. 1441, the No New Programs resolution. This resolution would amend the Rules of the House of Representatives and require that any bill or joint resolution that created a new federal program must contain a provision that would eliminate one or more current federal programs of equal or greater cost. Members are encouraged to contact Paul Balzano, at Paul.Balzano@mail.house.gov or 5-3605, to cosponsor H.Res. 1441, or for additional information.

If you would like to participate in eliminating wasteful programs with the RSC Sunset Caucus, please e-mail Brad.Watson@mail.house.gov.

If you have a bill or amendment to highlight in the next Waste Action Alert please contact Kimberly.Ellis@mail.house.gov.

Note: Not every item featured in the Waste Action Alerts is necessarily endorsed by the RSC. These Alerts highlight the individual initiatives of members of the RSC Sunset Caucus.

*"The RSC Sunset Caucus uncovers government waste and seeks to eliminate it,
working to sunset programs that taxpayers shouldn't be paying for."*

RSC 
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