

HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

Jeb Hensarling, *Chairman*

It's time for Washington Democrats to present a serious plan to cut spending. In the meantime, Republicans will continue to keep our pledge to focus on the American people's priorities: cutting spending and creating jobs." [Speaker Boehner Press Release 3/9](#)

Talking Points: Cutting Spending to Foster Job Creation and Economic Growth

- The solution for reviving our economy is straightforward: cut job-destroying spending to help the economy grow and empower employers to create jobs.
- Historic debt leads to historic tax increases, which will lead to historic unemployment. We must address this spending-driven debt crisis now.
- It is not a coincidence that the national debt, federal spending, bureaucratic regulatory costs, and unemployment all climbed to record highs at the same time.
- To create jobs and save our children from national bankruptcy, we have to stop spending money we don't have.
- It's time to shrink the federal budget so that we don't shrink the family budget.

Talking Points: Democrats Rally to Maintain the Spending Status Quo

- The United States is currently more than \$14 trillion in debt, a record high, and dangerously close to surpassing our national GDP (currently \$14.4 trillion).
- Our record-level debt is equal to \$45,500 per American and \$127,500 per taxpayer.
- Last month the federal government reported its largest monthly deficit in history - \$223 billion [http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12088/MBR_March_2011.pdf] - marking 29 straight months the government has been in the red. [<http://www.fms.treas.gov/mts/mts.xls>]
- In comparison, the **annual** federal budget deficit for fiscal year 2007 was \$161 billion. [<http://blogs.wsj.com/economics/2007/10/05/deficit-for-fiscal-2007-slides/>]
- The February monthly deficit figure is more than 30 times the size of Senate Democrats' proposed \$6 billion in spending cuts. [<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/mar/7/government-posts-biggest-monthly-deficit-ever/>]
- Republicans are working to cut spending and create jobs while Democrats are fighting us every step of the way to maintain the status quo. If we've learned anything from their policies, it's that we can't borrow, spend, tax, and bail out our way to economic prosperity.

Talking Points: Putting an End to Expensive and Ineffective Government Foreclosure Programs

- The best way to help homeowners prevent foreclosures is with a job.

- This week the House is considering legislation that will terminate two costly and ineffective government foreclosure mitigation programs that will save taxpayers money and help create an environment for job-creators to hire more workers.
- The lack of jobs—not unsustainable mortgage terms—is now the driving force behind foreclosures and mortgage defaults. That is why job creation—not government spending—is the most effective tool to prevent further foreclosures.
- The unemployment rate has now hovered around or above 9 percent for the past 22 months, topping 8 percent for the last 25 months. To restore certainty to the economy and foster job growth, we must stop spending money that we don't have. Historic debt leads to historic tax increases, which stifles job growth.
- In order to grow the economy and provide an environment in which Americans can prosper, we need to end expensive and ineffective government programs and remove the barriers of uncertainty that prevents employers from hiring.