



THE REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

MEMO

To: Republican Study Committee members

From: Chairman Jim Banks

Date: February 16, 2021

Subject: Democrats' Secret Spending

Democrats have been hoping the public's attention has been occupied watching a made for TV show trial of the former president in the Senate, because they've been trying to quietly load up a \$1.9 trillion budget reconciliation bill with special interest pork and other liberal goodies.

The RSC isn't letting them get away with this. That's why we've put together the following document listing all the left-wing items Democrats are hoping the public won't find about...

Please help us share this fact sheet with EVERYONE you can so the American people know EXACTLY how their tax dollars are being spent.

Job Killing

- New federally mandated minimum wage would result in 1.4 million jobs lost, with younger Americans with less formal education being hardest hit.
- Unemployment benefits would come with a weekly \$400 bonus on top of regular payments, and last for up to nearly a year and a half. Under this plan, 53 percent of Americans would get effectively receive a raise for being unemployed.
- Creates a program that through September 2021 that would pay 85% of a person's COBRA premiums when they leave a job, including by quitting. Subsidies would come in the form of an advance refundable payroll tax credit.

Pro-Abortion

- Democrats blocked an amendment with Hyde language that would ensure that federal benefits used to pay for COBRA health insurance premiums are not used to provide abortion services.
- Maintains ability for Planned Parenthood to receive PPP funds.

Promotes Illegal Immigration

- Stimulus checks could go to families where a parent is an illegal immigrant.
- Allows subsidies paying for 85 percent of COBRA premiums to go to illegal immigrants.

Keeping Schools Closed

- Provides \$130 billion on top of the \$110 billion already given to schools, even if they remain closed. Students, in particular at-risk and low-income students, face lifelong consequences of these closures.
- Unconscionably gives labor unions—including those teachers unions fighting against school reopening—access to PPP funding worth up to \$10 million per union.
- Provides no opportunities for families to receive education funding intended for a student, if the student is not being served by their school districts.

Soft on China

- Allows funding to go to colleges that have partnerships with companies that are owned or controlled by communist China. Democrats rejected a GOP amendment to fix this.
- Allows funding to go to colleges and universities that have partnerships with Confucius Institutes.

Budget-busting Spending

- Over \$1 trillion remains unspent while Democrats push Biden's \$1.9 trillion budget-buster.
- Provides an additional \$1.5 billion to Amtrak, which is already sitting on roughly \$1 billion of unspent aid.
- Provides \$30 Billion for transit grants, available through FY 2024, of which \$26 billion (87%) would go to urban area transit entities. This almost three times the total annual outlays through the FTA.
- \$8 billion in operating expense, debt payments, and development projects aid to largely urban airports, available through FY 2024.
- Provides a \$350 billion bailout for state and local governments despite limited declines in overall revenue last year. Such funding effectively subsidizes unwarranted shutdowns that kills businesses and livelihoods.
- \$3 billion in aid to supplement payroll costs for certain U.S. aircraft manufacturers.
- Democrats on the Education & Labor committee blocked an amendment that would have required agency Inspector Generals to audit and report on the use of COVID-19 funds.
- Congress provided \$150 billion to the Coronavirus Relief Fund for state and local governments to cover pandemic-related expenses. It is unclear how much of the funds have been spent so far and whether the funds used met the letter of the law.

Misplaced Assistance

- Eliminates income limits that prevent wealthy people from qualifying for the Obamacare premium subsidies.
- Crowds out small businesses with the most need for additional PPP funding by expanding eligibility to large, affiliated nonprofits, labor unions, country clubs, fraternities and sororities and publicly-traded internet news organizations.
- "Stimulus checks" that would give up to \$1,400 per taxpayer and per dependent that would give money to some married couples with up to \$200,000 in annual income.
- Would nearly triple, to \$10,000, the amount of annual investment income that a taxpayer can have and still qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).
- Would increase federal subsidies through the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, especially for high income earners. Specifically, this provision would move the beginning of the phaseout for this credit from \$15,000 to \$125,000.

Left's Social Justice Agenda

- Provides \$50 million in funding for EPA environmental justice grants, a thinly-veiled kickback to leftist environmental groups.
- Extends PPP funds to violent criminals, including those guilty of assault on a police officer and nonconsensual sexual crimes.
- Expands Medicaid eligibility, for five years, to incarcerated individuals 30 days prior to their release.
- Prioritizes funding based on identity politics while ignoring rural businesses and communities.
- Gives billions in subsidies and loan forgiveness worth 120% of debt to farmers and ranchers on the basis of race and ethnicity.
- Gives \$800 million in additional foreign food aid.

Liberal Welfare Wishlist

- Incentivizes harmful Medicaid expansion by increasing newly expanded state's base FMAP by five percentage points for two years. Not only does this hurt state budgets, it also brings our nation one step closer to a complete federal takeover of our health care sector.
- Increase the size of Obamacare premium tax credits for existing beneficiaries.
- Effectively place an excise tax on everyday Americans' pharmaceutical purchases by removing the Medicaid AMP rebate cap, which could create instances where drug manufacturers are paying Medicaid to supply drugs.
- Expands Medicaid eligibility, for five years, to incarcerated individuals 30 days prior to their release and to women for 12 months postpartum, an unrelated provision that should be considered on its own merits.
- Provides additional subsidies for LIHEAP (\$4.5 billion), a program ripe with fraud, waste, and abuse, that President Trump even sought to eliminate.
- Extends 15 percent increase in SNAP funding through the rest of FY 2021.
- Provides nearly \$600 million for additional paid leave for federal employees and postal workers.
- Would increase the Child Tax Credit (CTC) by \$1,000 per child over 5 and \$1,600 per child under 6. For 2021, the credit would be fully refundable. Would double the maximum EITC benefit to workers with no dependents.
- Would increase, by 20%, the maximum amount of federally subsidized wages for paid leave. Would allow self-employed people to claim up to 60 days annually worth of federally subsidized paid leave.
- Removes state matching requirement for the Child Care Entitlement to States (CCES) grant program, along with an almost 20% increase in funding for this program.
- Would, effectively, implement the Democratic Butch Lewis taxpayer bailout of pensions plan.