

BIDEN CHALLENGE - WHAT WOULD THEY HAVE ME CUT?

While asking Congress to pass a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 “relief” bill, President Biden asked, “What would you have me cut?” Mr. President, here are a few ideas:

- Any of the \$670 billion (over 1/3rd of the bill) that would not be spent this year.
 - Especially not any of the \$140 billion that would not be spent until FY2024 or later
- Expansion of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) eligibility to include politically favored groups like Planned Parenthood and unions
- \$12 billion for foreign aid in the so called “American” Rescue Plan

Ways & Means

- A one-size-fits-all \$15 federal minimum wage while small businesses are struggling
- \$413 billion in checks to individuals, many of whom haven’t lost income due to the pandemic
- \$86 billion to bail out 185 or so multiemployer pension plans that were poorly managed before the pandemic even started
- \$35 billion to increase Obamacare subsidies and eliminate the current income cap.
- The increase in federal subsidies through the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, for high income earners, by raising the phaseout earnings level by over \$100,000

Transportation & Infrastructure

- \$1.5 million for Chuck Schumer’s bridge to Canada
- \$112 million for Pelosi’s underground rail project in Silicon Valley
- \$1.5 billion for Amtrak

Energy & Commerce

- \$50 million in grants for family planning with no Hyde protections blocking it from going to Planned Parenthood
- \$15 billion to coerce states to expand Medicaid
- \$50 million for “environmental justice” grants

Agriculture

- \$4 billion to pay off loans and related taxes of “socially disadvantaged” farmers and ranchers
- \$1 billion to develop programs that provide assistance to socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, forest land owners and operators

Education & Labor

- \$123 billion for K-12 schools that will be spent on non-Covid relief in 2022-2028. This funding should be pursued through the regular appropriations process
- Any funds that go to schools refusing to return to safe in-person instruction for students
- \$135 million for the National Endowment for the Arts
- \$135 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities
- \$200 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services

Oversight & Reform

- \$350 billion in state and local aid that rewards states that shut down their economies and caused massive unemployment
 - Especially egregious when “48 of 50 states have received more aid than their anticipated revenue loss” according to the State Policy Network