



Infographic: House Appropriations Bill Ignores the Other 99 Percent

Bill Cuts Vital Lifelines While Leaving Tax Breaks Untouched

Donna Cooper and Melissa Boteach

October 13, 2011

Last week House Republican leaders released draft legislation that slashes federal funding for core education, health, human services, and labor programs while ignoring better choices for balancing the federal budget including ending tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans and highly profitable companies. These proposed cuts demonstrate that the House leadership is ignoring the Occupy Wall Street protests giving voice to the 99 percent of Americans fed up with federal policies that protect tax laws benefiting the wealthiest while sacrificing programs that help the middle class and poor.

The infographic illustrates that the House majority's answer to the growing Occupy Wall Street movement is to make things worse for the 99 percent of Americans trying to hold on to the fraying American dream.

Note: All spending figures from FY12 Labor-HHS-Education House bill; all revenue figures for 2012.

Source: Joint Committee on Taxation, "Estimated Effects of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010" (2010), available at <http://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=3715>; Joint Committee on Taxation, "Estimates of Federal Tax Expenditures for Fiscal Years 2010-2014" (2010), available at <http://www.jct.gov/publications.html?func=startdown&id=3717>; Office of Management and Budget, "Living Within Our Means and Investing in the Future, The President's Plan for Economic Growth and Deficit Reduction" (2011), available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/jointcommitteereport.pdf>.

House Republicans cut:

Money to help poor families heat their homes

The details: a \$1.3 billion cut to the Low Income Energy Assistance Program in FY 2012

Money for college students

The details: a \$3.6 billion cut in Pell Grant funding for FY 2012, making it harder for students to attend college and graduate with less debt

Job training for the unemployed

The details: \$2.2 billion less for federal job-training programs in FY 2012

Health insurance for Americans

The details: \$8.6 billion cut from the Affordable Care Act in FY 2012

House Republicans protect:

Tax breaks for Big Oil

The details: \$4.1 billion per year in special tax breaks for the oil and gas industry, a cost three times higher than the cuts to the LIHEAP program

Tax breaks for wealthy investors

The details: \$13.5 billion in FY 2012 in Bush tax breaks on income from dividend, a cost four times higher than the cuts to grants to cut college debt

Tax breaks for owners of corporate jets

The details: \$4.6 billion generated over 10 years by preserving special rules that permit owners of corporate jets to avoid taxes on their jets

Tax protection for multimillion-dollar estates

The details: \$28 billion in FY 2012 in preferential treatment for heirs of millionaire estates, a cost three times higher than the health care cuts