

# DEMAND A FAIR BUDGET THAT ASKS ALL AMERICANS TO HELP!

Call the White House and your Senators TODAY and tell them to oppose cuts to programs that support the middle-class and vulnerable populations.

Call President Obama at 1-888-828-4170 (toll free)

Call Senators Schumer and Gillibrand at 1-888-907-1485 (toll free)

## Who Will Pay for Congressional Plans to Reduce Federal Deficit?

**Infants and Children**

**Infants and Children** will lose access to WIC, Head Start and Food Stamps under the House budget proposal.

**Young Adults in College**

The House proposal reduces the amount and number of Pell Grants that support **middle class youth in college**, and the proposal eliminates millions from education.

**Poor Families and Children**

Congress has proposed significant cuts to Medicaid that would take health care away from millions of **poor families and children**.

**Seniors**

The Ryan Budget approved by the House of Representatives would dismantle Medicare and create a new voucher system that would force millions of **seniors** to spend thousands each year on their health care.

**Hard-working Americans**

**These cuts affect ALL hard-working Americans** because cuts to Medicaid, Medicare, education and other social service programs will lead to the loss of millions of jobs – both in the private and public sectors. The cuts to Medicaid in the Ryan Budget could lead to a loss of 2.1 million jobs, most of which would be in the private sector.<sup>1</sup>

## Who Will Benefit from Congressional Plans to Close Federal Deficit?

**Corporations**

**Corporations** that continue to have tax loopholes that led to many top profit Corporations paying NO federal taxes. In 2010 General Electric posted \$14 billion in profits and paid NO federal taxes.

**Oil Companies**

**Oil companies** who will continue to get government subsidies while making BILLIONS in profit. Exxon-Mobil reported almost \$1 billion in pre-tax profits over the past two years, but only paid \$39 million in taxes – only 0.4 percent – because of the tax subsidies.<sup>i</sup>

**Corporate Jet Owners**

**Corporate jet owners** who have a loophole that does not exist for commercial jets. Changing this loophole could generate at least \$2 billion in revenue for the United States.<sup>ii</sup>

**Millionaires and Billionaires**

**Millionaires and billionaires** who continue to have the LOWEST tax rates since the 1950's.

## What Caused the Deficit? (Certainly not children!)

In 2001 there was a surplus of **\$128 billion**. *Since that time the deficit has increased to \$1.4 trillion because:*

- Revenues have decreased by 18 percent.
- Defense spending (EXCLUDING the cost of the wars) increased by 47 percent. Including the cost of the wars Defense spending is up by 80 percent.
- Spending on mandatory programs (such as Medicare and Social Security) is up by 32 percent.
- Non-defense discretionary spending has remained flat. <sup>iii</sup>

## **Call President Obama at 1-888-828-4170 and your Senators at 1-888-907-1485 and tell them:**

**“I am concerned about the direction of the budget negotiations. While we must address the debt ceiling, we cannot sacrifice the futures of children and poor people while the wealthy and corporations get a free ride. Please prevent harmful cuts to Medicaid, Food Stamps, Child Care and Head Start and Education.”**

- **Protect children and other vulnerable people from all budget cuts.**
  - *Instead of dismantling programs that keep children healthy, fed and prepared for school and educated for future success, now is the time to strengthen and improve these programs.*
- **Invest in children to strengthen the nation’s economic future.**
  - *While protecting billions in tax breaks for the wealthiest corporations and individuals, there are proposals on the table to take away food from infants, limit access to higher-education, significantly cut Medicaid and even dismantle Medicare. Making children, the elderly and poor people carry the budget burden on their backs while the richest continue to enjoy the lowest tax rates in generations is inherently unjust and will lead to an even weaker economy and nation.*
- **Ensure that the richest contribute their fair share**
  - *Some in Congress would jeopardize our economy by refusing any revenue increase and targeting trillions of dollars in cuts to essential health, nutrition, education, employment, housing, and other programs. Decisions are being made to craft a deficit reduction deal that will determine who gets to eat, who gets an education, and who gets health care for the next decade. **Please tell the President and your Senators that our future depends on essential investments, and that the wealthiest among us can afford to pay their share.***

**With so much at stake, it is more important than ever that President Obama and your senator hear from you immediately.**

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<sup>i</sup> Citizens for Tax Justice, April 29, 2011

<sup>ii</sup> Statement from Eric Cantor, House Majority Leader June 30, 2011.

<sup>iii</sup> Statement by Senator Daniel K. Inouye, US Senate Committee on Appropriations, June 30, 2011.