



THE MASQUERADE CONTINUES:



Bush Claims to be Fiscally Responsible While Pushing to Borrow Billions More for Iraq

“The President’s claim that his veto threats stem from concerns about fiscal responsibility is difficult to reconcile with the amounts the President would devote to his own budget priorities.” [Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, 11/8/07]

President Bush continued his attempt to masquerade as being fiscally responsible by choosing to veto a bipartisan appropriations bill that makes needed investments in healthcare, education, and medical research, among other areas. His charade becomes apparent by looking at his record on Iraq: continuing to borrow huge amounts of money to fund his failing policy.

While Democrats are fighting for America’s priorities...

- **Healthcare**
 - Providing access to healthcare for 1.2 million uninsured Americans through Community Health Centers
 - Investing in rural health programs that support small, rural hospitals
 - Expanding health care coverage to targeted groups through State Health Access Grants
- **Education**
 - Helping families afford college
 - Funding No Child Left Behind to help low-income children, improve teacher quality, boost after-school programs, and improve classroom technology
 - Helping educate millions of American children with disabilities
 - Providing the start low-income children need to be successful in school through the Head Start Program
- **Medical Research**
 - Investing in critical research into life threatening diseases like cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, and stroke.
- **Economic Development**
 - Helping states meet the needs of low-income individuals, including housing assistance, employment aid, nutrition programs, and health services
 - Helping states provide for social services such as child care, protective services, foster care, and help for the disabled
- **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**
 - Providing assistance to low-income and elderly Americans so that they can pay their heating bills this winter
- **Job Training**
 - Continuing training programs for dislocated workers to help them prepare to re-enter the workforce
 - Investing in Vocational Education

... Bush keeps borrowing tens of billions of dollars for Iraq

- This year alone, Bush has requested another **\$200 billion** for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan
- Bush has now asked for a total of **\$804 billion** for Iraq and Afghanistan – all of which is borrowed money, and all of which is added to the national debt
- A new report by the Joint Economic Committee estimates that the real economic costs to our country of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is actually **\$1.6 trillion**

Prepared by the Office of Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, 11/14/07