

ALL REPUBLICAN TALK, NO REPUBLICAN ACTION

*While Democrats Take Action to Address our Budget and Economy,
“Party of No” Continues to Offer the Same Empty Rhetoric and No New Ideas*

While Republicans expended a great deal of effort to make their budget document look just like President Obama’s, it was missing something rather important: Numbers...or any substance at all. Republicans took to the stage today, condemning President Obama and Congressional Democrats for their budget, but failed to provide any real solutions for how to return our budget to fiscal sanity and invest in the future.

Republicans Say They Have a Plan...So What Is It?



“There will be a ‘substantive, comprehensive Republican alternative in the next 24 hours,’ House GOP Conference Chairman Mike Pence (Ind.) said this afternoon.”

– Washington Post, 3/25/09



“[W]e are here today because, yes, we do have a plan. We have ideas, and we directly challenge the administration and Speaker Pelosi to work with us on behalf of all Americans.”

– Minority Whip Eric Cantor, 3/26/09

Republicans Offer No New Ideas, Call For More of the Same

The document Republicans released today is a return to the failed policies of the past that got our country into this deep financial and economic crisis in the first place. Republicans would dramatically decrease investment in critical areas, from education to public safety. The document released today does not address the change Americans voted for in November – it calls for more of the same:

- **Tax cuts for the Wealthy:** Calls for massive tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans – including extending all Bush tax cuts.
- **Continuing Corporate Subsidies:** Includes huge subsidies to big oil and gas companies.
- **No Help for Lowering Health Care Costs:** While millions of Americans struggle with the rising cost of health care, this document has no plan to reduce costs
- **Promoting Deregulation:** Their answer to the financial crisis is to ask for more deregulation – which is what caused the crisis in the first place.
- **Their plan will result in deep cuts to vital services, like education and public safety.**

Who Are They Fooling? No One

“Yesterday, House Republicans made a pretty big deal about unveiling their budget alternative... And then what happens today? House Republicans release a 19-page document that contains no hard spending numbers or deficit projections.” – MSNBC, 3/26/09

“As Matthew Yglesias noted, ‘It’s strange that the Republicans railing about long-term deficits seem to love long-term deficits when the point of the deficits is to further enrich the rich.’ Indeed, the plan shows that Republicans are very concerned with preserving the wealth inequality of the Bush era, while dismissing the need to substantively address health care, climate change, or job creation.” – Think Progress, 3/26/09

“Stung by their stereotyping as the ‘party of no,’ House Republicans eagerly promoted the unveiling of their alternative to President Obama’s budget today -- but when they finished speaking, reporters had one big question: Where’s the actual budget? You know, the numbers that show deficit projections and discretionary spending? There certainly was no hard budgetary data in the attractively designed 18-page packet that the House GOP handed out today.” –Talking Points Memo, 3/26/09

Prepared by the Office of Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, 3/26/09