



## **RSC Sunset Caucus**

*Rep. Kevin Brady & Rep. Jason Chaffetz  
Co-Chairs*

*Sunset – to provide for the permanent elimination, de-funding, or repeal of a federal program, agency, or department at a date certain.*

The RSC Sunset Caucus is a new, permanent subset of the Republican Study Committee committed to protecting taxpayers and shrinking the size of government – one wasteful, duplicative, or unnecessary program at a time.

As federal deficits surge, the American people are looking for people to match word with deed and shrink the size of government with real action. The RSC Sunset Caucus seeks to ensure members put their money where their mouth is and force votes to eliminate needless government bureaucracy.

Each member of the RSC Sunset Caucus will:

- Adopt one or more federal program they believe has outlived its usefulness or never should have been enacted.
- Publicly champion the repeal or de-funding of the program(s).
- Offer an amendment during the relevant appropriations bill to defund the program(s).
- Introduce stand alone legislation to sunset the targeted program(s).

Current Members of the RSC Sunset Caucus include:

Kevin Brady (TX), co-chair. Jason Chaffetz (UT), co-chair, Todd Akin (MO), Steve Austria (OH), Michelle Bachmann (MN), Roscoe Bartlett (MD), Marsha Blackburn (TN), Paul Broun (GA), John Campbell (CA), Republican Whip Eric Cantor (VA), Mike Coffman (CO), Tom Cole (OK), Michael Conaway (TX), Mary Fallin (OK), Jeff Flake (AZ), John Fleming (LA), Virginia Foxx (NC), Scott Garrett (NJ), Phil Gingrey (GA), Bob Goodlatte (VA), Jeb Hensarling (TX), Duncan Hunter (CA), Jim Jordan (OH), Steve King (IA), John Kline (MN), Doug Lamborn (CO), Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO), Connie Mack (FL), Donald Manzullo (IL), Tom McClintock (CA), Buck McKeon (CA), Randy Neugebauer (TX), Pete Olson (TX), Joe Pitts (PA), Bill Posey (FL), RSC Chair Tom Price (GA), Phil Roe (TN), Ed Royce (CA), Steve Scalise (LA), Pete Sessions (TX), Cliff Stearns (FL)

Specific programs and subsidies targeted for elimination include:

The unspent portion of the Economic Stimulus Package, the Presidential Election Fund, Americorps, the National Endowment for the Arts, Amtrak, the Nuclear Waste Fund, the Visa Lottery Program, Funding for GOP and Democrat Conventions, Farm Subsidies for Mohair, the Legal Services Corporation, the International Fund for Ireland, Enhancing Education Through Technology, Education Department Attache in Paris, Sugar Subsidies, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Educational, Cultural, Apprenticeship, and Exchange Programs for Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Their Historical Trading Partners in Massachusetts, Funding for Official Federal Employee Work Time for the Use of Union Activities, Coast Guard's LORAN-C Radio Investigation System, Payments to Palau to take Gitmo Detainees, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Local Government Climate Change Grants, Repeal of Davis–Bacon, and many, many more.

Just how overgrown has government gotten?

- The deficit has increased by *\$1.678 trillion* or *1,035.8%* in the little more than two years since the Democrats took control of the Congress.
- The President's budget calls for the public debt to double within five years and to triple within ten years.
- This year's deficit is projected to be \$1.84 trillion—four times the next highest deficit in U.S. history.
- The federal government will borrow 46 cents for every dollar it spends in FY 2009.
- The Democrats, in just two years, have presided over a \$8.6 trillion deterioration in the country's budget outlook—from a projected ten-year surplus of \$800 billion in January 2007, to projected deficits (over the same period) of ***\$7.8 trillion***.

The Heritage Foundation estimates there exist,

- At least \$55 billion in annual program overpayments;
- \$25 billion in unused federal property;
- \$123 billion for programs for which government auditors can find no evidence of success;
- \$140 billion in potential budget savings identified in the Congressional Budget Office's "Budget Options" books; and
- Massive program duplication, such as the 342 economic development programs, 130 programs serving the disabled, and 130 programs serving at-risk youth.

And according to the Cato Institute, there are more than 1,800 federal subsidy programs.

*“No government ever voluntarily reduces itself in size. Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth.”* – President Ronald Reagan