

# THE “STIMULUS” IN OHIO

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## ONE YEAR LATER: “WHERE ARE THE JOBS?”



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## INTRODUCTION

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On the one-year anniversary of President Obama and Congressional Democrats' trillion-dollar "stimulus" spending program, it is clear that it has utterly failed to live up to their promises.

When Democrats rushed their massive 1,100-page, "stimulus" through Congress in 2009, they promised that unemployment would not exceed eight percent<sup>i</sup> and that job creation would begin "almost immediately."<sup>ii</sup> But nearly one year later, more than three million more Americans have lost their jobs, unemployment is near 10 percent, and the deficit is set to hit a record \$1.6 trillion.

By the Democrats' own metrics, the "stimulus" hasn't worked: it's chock-full of wasteful government spending that has funneled money to congressional districts that don't exist and the Administration's claims of jobs "saved or created" were so exaggerated that it quietly abandoned the metric at the end of last year.

Sadly, our children and grandchildren will be the ones who bear the cost of the "stimulus." While it costs \$862 billion today, with interest it will cost more than \$1 trillion.<sup>iii</sup>

All told, Ohio is expected to receive more than \$10 billion in "stimulus" funding, but the results for Ohio taxpayers and working families have been minimal, at best. Over the past year Ohio has lost more than 107,000 jobs while jobless figures have risen to some of the highest rates in a generation. Meanwhile, a number of examples of misleading math, poor choices and wasteful spending have surfaced in the Buckeye State.

With similar examples across the country, it's no wonder a CBS/New York Times poll released just days before the one-year anniversary of the "stimulus" found that "just 6 percent of Americans think it has created jobs."<sup>iv</sup>

Today Congressman John Boehner released a report entitled "Where Are The Jobs?: A Look Back At One Year of So-Called 'Stimulus.'" This report is a companion piece, looking specifically at what is leading Ohioans to continue to ask after one year of "stimulus": Where are the jobs?

**Note:** Throughout this report are examples and cases from across the country taken from the "[Where are the Jobs? A Look Back At One Year of So-Called 'Stimulus'](#)" report released this morning. These examples are labeled "**National Report**" in the places they appear.

**PART ONE:**  

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**WHERE ARE THE JOBS?**

*“We’re creating jobs immediately” – President Barack Obama, February 9, 2009<sup>v</sup>*

It is important to take a look back at the events of the previous year to understand how we arrived at a situation with record job losses and record deficits following one year of the Democrats' trillion-dollar "stimulus":

## "STIMULUS" RHETORIC VS. RESULTS

Washington Democrats' promised that the 'stimulus' would create jobs 'immediately' yet one year later, Ohio has lost more than 100,000 jobs.

The chart below compares the projections made by the Administration with the actual change in state payroll employment through December, 2009, provided by the U.S. Department of Labor. Only North Dakota and Washington, D.C., have seen net job creation, and even those levels fall short of White House claims.

Finally, the table also compares the unemployment rate when the stimulus was enacted versus the December, 2009, rate.

State	Administration Projections of "Stimulus" Employment Impact	Actual Change in Jobs Through December 2009	Unemployment Rate When "Stimulus" Was Enacted	December 2009 Unemployment Rate
Ohio	+133,000	-107,800	9.5%	10.9%
National Total	+3,467,000	-2,873,300	8.2%	10.0%

Note: To view this table in its entirety, [click here](#).

"For the record, Ohio unemployment was at 9.5 percent in February 2009 and rose to 10.9 percent in December 2009, the last month for which federal figures are available. Also, the state lost 107,800 jobs from February- December, 2009, according to federal data." - [Dayton Daily News](#), 2/16/2010

"Last July, Vice President Joe Biden stood in front of a hulking, five-story abandoned factory in Northside with good news: The federal government had approved \$1.6 million in stimulus money to help transform the American Can Building into new stores and apartments. The project would create 100 construction jobs - proof, Biden said, that the stimulus was putting people to work. Seven months later, the project remains stalled, and has yet to make good on that promise." - [Cincinnati Enquirer](#), 2/7/2010

## THE DEMOCRATS' "STIMULUS" MATH: HOW TO COUNT JOBS

The Obama Administration took “some heat and mockery for using the nebulous and non-economic term of jobs being ‘saved or created’” by “stimulus” program.<sup>vi</sup> On Nov. 24, 2009, Congressman John Boehner (R-West Chester) and House Oversight & Government Reform Committee Ranking Member Darrell Issa (R-CA) wrote a letter to Vice President Biden asking the Administration to stop using the “created or saved” terminology, citing “gross inaccuracies and confusion associated with the counting of job claims” and asking the Administration instead to focus on actual job creation.<sup>vii</sup> In December 2009, the Obama Administration quietly abandoned the scheme.<sup>viii</sup> When you see how jobs have been counted over the past year, it is easy to understand why.

At a November 2009 congressional hearing, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board Chairman Earl Devaney admitted that “the reports on jobs created or saved” are “riddled with inaccuracies and contradictions.”<sup>ix</sup>

Devaney was right. Examples of the fuzzy math of “stimulus” job counting abound in Ohio:

“Toledo, Ohio-based Koring Group received two FCC contracts, again for call centers. It reported hiring 26 people for each contract, or a total of 52 jobs, but cited the same workers for both contracts. The jobs only lasted about two months. The company's owner, Steve Holland, acknowledged the actual job count is closer to five.” - [Toledo Blade](#), 10/29/2009

“The Obama administration announced Friday that federal stimulus money had created or saved about 7,200 education jobs in Ohio as of Sept. 30. Although a couple of hundred of those jobs were in Columbus City Schools, the district acknowledged yesterday that many of the “saved” jobs definitely wouldn't have been lost in the first place, and others might not have been lost at all.” - [Columbus Dispatch](#), 11/3/2009

“You might be a stimulus fan, you might be a stimulus foe, but you've got to admire the sweep of stimulus spending in Ohio. It has provided more than \$1.2 million and added three jobs in Ohio's 21st Congressional District. Never mind that there is no such district. There also isn't a 20th, 49th, 54th, 56th, 69th, 85th, 87th or 99th, even though the federal government's Web site for tracking stimulus money lists them as getting funding. And there most certainly is not a district numbered “00,” even though the government's Web site says it got \$1.86 million, which helped create or save eight jobs.” - [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), 11/17/2009

“According to the U.S. government's Web site at [recovery.org](#), \$462,277 was awarded through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for highway, street or bridge

work within the city of St. Marys. The problem? The money was never received by St. Marys or Auglaize County officials as stated on the Web site. The actual road paving project, which created 3.47 jobs, occurred in the city of Urbana in Champagne County.” - [Daily Standard](#), 11/28/2009

“Auglaize County, according to the state, was awarded approximately \$2.5 million. The federal Web site, however, says the county is getting double that figure - nearly \$5.8 million.” - [Daily Standard](#), 11/28/2009

**National Report:** “Even in its limited review, the [*Associated Press*] found job counts that were more than 10 times as high as the actual number of paid positions; jobs credited to the stimulus program that were counted two and sometimes more than four times; and other jobs that were credited to stimulus spending when none was produced.”<sup>x</sup>

## TEMPORARY JOBS, LOST JOBS, AND DEPARTING JOBS

### TEMPORARY LAW ENFORCEMENT?

- “Earlier this year, President Obama attended the graduation of 25 police recruits in Columbus, Ohio, touting it as a victory for the federal stimulus package... facing a growing deficit and a fight to pass an income tax hike, Columbus Police on Tuesday announced massive budget cuts that could mean hundreds of layoffs. Among those who could lose their jobs if voters reject the increase: the 25 new officers who shook the president's hand.” - [CNN](#), 5/26/2009

### NATIONAL REPORT: A JOB IS A JOB?

- The *Associated Press* reported that in Oregon, “Democrats are taking credit for a remarkable feat: creating 3,236 new jobs in the program’s first three months. But those jobs lasted on average only 35 hours, or about one work week. After that, those workers were effectively back unemployed, according to an *Associated Press* analysis of state spending and hiring data. By the state’s accounting, a job is a job, whether it lasts three hours, three days, three months, or a lifetime.”

## GOVERNMENT GETTING IN THE WAY OF JOB CREATION

“Gov. Ted Strickland's administration is trying to swat down a lawsuit claiming that Ohio has lagged in securing federal stimulus money, keeping thousands of union members out of work.” - [Columbus Dispatch](#), 8/29/2009

“For the U.S. overall, an additional 1.7 million jobs could be lost as a direct result of the higher spending in the [“stimulus”] bill. The increased job losses and decreased net business output will reduce tax revenue growth and increase government income support expenditures for all 50 states and the federal government. Due to these feedback effects, [the “stimulus”] will de-stimulate the economy, reduce tax receipts, and increase government expenditures. In Ohio, between 66,400 and 91,200 job losses can be expected to occur.” - [The Buckeye Institute](#), 5/4/2009

**National Report:** Top telecommunications firms, such as AT&T, Verizon and Comcast avoided participating in the \$4.7 billion broadband grant program funded by the “stimulus.” Some said “taking money could draw unwanted scrutiny of business practices and compensation, as seen with automakers and banks that have taken government bailouts,” and that there were also concerns about “conditions attached to the money.”<sup>xi</sup>

## WHERE ARE THE JOBS? IN GOVERNMENT

“More than 80% of the jobs created or retained with stimulus money are located in Central Ohio. All of the top 20 award recipients are a part of the public sector.” - [Ohio Watchdog.org](#), 11/16/2009

**National Report:** In his February 9, 2009, news conference President Obama said that “[m]ore than 90 percent of the jobs created by this plan will be in the private sector.”<sup>xii</sup> However, in September 2009, 14 of the top federal government agencies responsible for “stimulus” spending hired about 3,000 workers with “stimulus” funds. The federal government grew by more than 25,000 employees, or 1.3 percent since December 2008, while the number of unemployed increased by nearly 4 million.<sup>xiii</sup> The *New York Times* reported that “[a]lthough President Obama initially said that 90 percent of the jobs created by the “stimulus” program would be in the private sector, the data suggests that well over half of the jobs claimed so far have been in the public sector.”<sup>xiv</sup>

## PART TWO:

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### WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE

*“If we see money being misspent, we’re going to put a stop to it, and we will call it out and we will publicize it.” – President Obama, Mar. 12, 2009 <sup>xv</sup>*

*“We’ve been in business seven, eight months. You haven’t seen wasteful spending. No one has said we spent \$2 million on things that didn’t exist.” –Vice President Joe Biden, Nov. 17, 2009 <sup>xvi</sup>*



## WASTEFUL SPENDING

Both President Obama and Vice President Biden claimed that there would be no wasteful spending in the “stimulus,” and that if there was they would put a stop to it. Nationally, “stimulus” millions of dollars have been spent on social security for the dead, airports for less than 200 people, bike lockers and sex studies. The following are examples where the Obama and Strickland Administration’s had an opportunity to stop wasteful spending in Ohio, but chose not to:

### ROAD SIGNS

- “A state senator from Ohio says his state is spending \$1 million on road signs to advertise the use of stimulus money for road projects. In other words, the state is using your money to tell you it's spending your money.” - [CNN](#), 1/26/2010
- “Plain Dealer reporter John Horton, who reviewed some existing local contracts and used local and federal officials' estimates, reported Wednesday that it was costing roughly \$2,000 to \$3,000 to supply, erect and then remove signs for each project. That works out to \$430,000 to \$1.1 million that could have gone into other projects.” - [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#), 9/10/2009,

### SOLAR PANELS

- The Forest Service paid D.J. Group Inc. of Beverly, Ohio, nearly \$400,000 to “furnish and install solar panels” on the supervisor's office of the Wayne National Forest in Nelsonville, Ohio.” - [Government Executive](#), 3/18/2009

### HIGH END HOTELS, BANQUET HALLS, CONFERENCE CENTERS & GUEST SPEAKERS

- “Columbus City Schools have more than 120 buildings designed for teaching. But in a three-day effort to teach its teachers, the district is renting banquet halls, high-end hotels and conference centers ~ using almost \$145,000 in federal grant dollars.” - [Columbus Dispatch](#), 12/6/2009

### TRAIN DRAIN

- “Gov. Ted Strickland and state lawmakers are likely to face a 2012-13 budget deficit of \$4 billion to \$9 billion. The money for the rail line won't help fill the holes in that budget in any way. It won't help pay for education, social services, Medicaid costs, state parks or any of the many other programs sought by Ohioans year after year. In fact, the \$400 million in start-up money covers only about three-fourths of the amount needed to upgrade rail lines and acquire the trains for the 3-C line.

After that, just keeping the trains running will cost the state \$17 million per year, according to Amtrak.” [Columbus Dispatch](#) - 1/31/2010

### NATIONAL REPORT: NO-BID AND EXPENSIVE CONTRACTS

- Even though the Pentagon saves “more than three times as much money when companies compete,” as of July 2009, more than “one-fourth of the military’s stimulus contract spending” was awarded through no-bid contracts. As of July 2009, more than \$543 million in federal contracts for “stimulus” spending were awarded without competition.<sup>xvii</sup>

## QUESTIONABLE CONTRACTS AND OVERSIGHT

As if the wasteful spending wasn’t bad enough, the Democrats’ trillion-dollar “stimulus” the Strickland Administration was slow to set-up guidelines for reporting waste and abuse, and in some cases, still can’t account for dollars spent on questionable projects. Meanwhile, Gov. Ted Strickland has repeatedly [ignored or refused requests from Republicans](#) to create a transparent, bipartisan “stimulus” oversight committee for Ohio:

### LACK OF OVERSIGHT

- “Ohioans who want to report fraud or waste as the state spends millions in federal stimulus money might have a hard time figuring out whom to call. The state is one of 36 that have no guidelines on their recovery-tracking Web sites for reporting abuse, according to the Project on Government Oversight, an independent nonprofit group in Washington, D.C., that investigates government corruption.” - [Columbus Dispatch](#), 5/21/2009
- “Ohio's Department of Transportation says that criticism misses the point ~ that this is all about transparency. While Varner says the \$1 million price tag on signs is "on the high side," he was unable to provide the department's own tally for money spent on the signs. He said, ‘it is not typical for any state DOT to have the exact cost on every single construction sign. It is a challenge to have that exact figure.’” ~ [CNN](#), 1/26/2010
- “Ohio has received or is scheduled to be given nearly \$9 billion in federal ‘stimulus’ money. It does not require an especially cynical nature to view that as an open invitation to mismanagement and, perhaps, outright fraud. Several members of Congress representing the state wrote to Gov. Ted Strickland recently, suggesting that he should create an independent, bipartisan board to monitor ‘stimulus’ spending. Strickland rejected the recommendation. Noting that it came only from

Republican lawmakers, the Democratic governor referred to the letter as ‘a political document.’” - [The Intelligencer Wheeling News Register](#), 11/27/2009

**NATIONAL REPORT: CONTRACTORS FINED, CHARGED OR SUSPENDED**

- A Muskogee, Oklahoma, company was awarded two road construction contracts totaling \$2.7 million funded by the “stimulus,” even though the owner of the company “pleaded no contest in early 2007 to conspiring to use prohibited road material and intimidating a state grand jury witness.”<sup>xviii</sup>

## **PART THREE:**

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## **BETTER SOLUTIONS**

*“At the beginning of this year, I told President Obama and Speaker Nancy Pelosi that Republicans would be ready to work with them whenever possible to address the nation’s biggest challenges. I also said that where there are differences, it was our obligation as a party to explain to the American people how we would do things better.” – Congressman John Boehner<sup>xix</sup>*

When President Obama assumed office in 2009, House Republicans pledged that when they disagreed with the president on policy matters, they would not simply be the party of “opposition,” but the party of better solutions. To that end, the House Republican Economic Recovery Solutions Group developed several proposals to help restore confidence in America’s economic future and free our nation’s employers to begin creating jobs. Given our record national deficit, Republicans believe it is important to pursue policies that help grow the economy and support job creation without additional government spending, new bureaucracies, or added debt that will be left to our children and grandchildren. The following is the House Republicans’ No-Cost Jobs Plan.

## **REPUBLICANS’ NO-COST JOBS PLAN**

### **TEAR DOWN SELF-IMPOSED OBSTACLES TO ECONOMIC GROWTH:**

The threat of increased taxes, new government regulation, and costly government mandates – all of which are currently pending before Congress and various regulatory bodies – are a significant threat to any employer who is trying to decide whether they can afford to expand. As the CEO of a steelmaker recently told the *Wall Street Journal* “Companies large and small are saying, ‘I am not going to do anything until these things – health care, climate legislation – go away or are resolved.’”

Therefore Congress and the Administration should:

### **Halt Any Proposed Rule or Regulation Expected to Have an Economic Cost, Result in Job Loss, or Have a Disparate Impact on Small Businesses:**

- Since taking office, the Administration has had under consideration over 100 regulations that are deemed economically significant, meaning they have an impact on the economy in excess of \$100 million. Many of these rules will directly impact small businesses.
- The President should issue an immediate Executive Order halting any proposed regulations expected to impose any net costs on the economy in either the near or long-term or that negatively impact small businesses or result in a net loss of jobs. Such rules should be rewritten to fully mitigate any negative economic impact.

### **Eliminate Job Killing Federal Tax Increases:**

- While there is a philosophical difference between the two parties when it comes to taxes, we believe we should find common ground on the premise that the government should at a minimum never raise taxes during periods of high unemployment.
- While Republicans will continue to fight both new initiatives that are premised on tax increases and automatic tax increases that are imbedded in current law, we urge a

bipartisan commitment to blocking such tax increases at least until unemployment is below 5% again.

#### **RESTORE CONFIDENCE IN AMERICA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE:**

Record deficits and debts and the seeming lack of commitment on the part of policymakers to restrain federal spending has caused many to conclude that the federal government is likely to address its deficit problems by either raising taxes or inflating the dollar. Even the threat of such actions in the future is a drag on the current economy.

Therefore Congress and the Administration should:

#### **Demonstrate a Commitment to Lowering the Deficit Now Without Raising Taxes By Freezing Domestic Discretionary Spending at Last Year's Level:**

- In addition to the \$787 billion "stimulus" bill, Congressional Democrats are pushing through appropriations bills that will increase domestic discretionary spending by 12% in one year.
- A freeze in domestic discretionary spending would immediately save \$53 billion and more importantly demonstrate an immediate commitment to fiscal restraint.

#### **ASSIST COMMUNITY BANKS AND SMALL BUSINESSES:**

The downturn in the commercial real estate market is impacting not just businesses that must roll over their loans, but also community and regional banks that have a significant exposure in commercial real estate. Because commercial real estate loans are generally written for a five year term and many are coming to term over the next several years, approximately \$400 billion in loans must be refinanced each year for the next several years. Many economists have cited the problems in the commercial real estate market as major hindrance to economic recovery.

Therefore Congress and the Administration should:

#### **Assist Community Banks and Small Businesses with the Downturn in the Commercial Real Estate Market:**

- The after-tax costs of properties could be lowered by reducing the depreciation schedule for property from 39½ years to 20 years or less.
- Bank regulators should act to improve transparency and ensure flexibility in underwriting and appraisal standards so as to ensure that financing is available for those properties with the promise of generating revenue. At a minimum this should

include requiring standardized reporting on the number of performing loans per institution that are not renewed. This would ensure that regulators on the ground are living up to the commitments of regulators in Washington not to deny renewal of loans simply because of a fall in the value of the collateral.

#### **REFORM THE UNEMPLOYMENT SYSTEM TO HELP THE JOBLESS AND SMALL BUSINESSES ALIKE:**

The current Federal-State unemployment insurance program is ill-equipped to assist individuals in the current economic downturn, especially those who may not be able to find employment in their former field. Furthermore, as a result of declining / negative balances in unemployment trust funds, most states will increase unemployment payroll taxes on employers, averaging almost \$250 per worker per year through 2012. This will directly increase costs of employment for businesses of all sizes.

Therefore Congress and the Administration should:

#### **Reform the Unemployment System to Help Those Out of Work Find Jobs and Lower Federal Payroll Taxes to Assist in Hiring:**

- Federal unemployment insurance recipients who are most likely to exhaust benefits should be expected to engage in education, training, or enhanced job search as a condition of eligibility. This proposal would expand on the current successful Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment program operated by some States.
- The government should require states to adopt a program like “Georgia Works” as a condition of accessing Unemployment Insurance Modernization funds. Under this successful program unemployment insurance recipients are placed in real part time jobs with real employers, with the employer deciding whether to hire them at the end of a 6-week trial period. Their pay during the period is their unemployment benefit, along with a State-provided stipend for job-related transportation and child care expenses. This has resulted in faster returns to work, less unemployment payments, and thus lower State unemployment taxes.
- The Federal government could help offset part of the cost of state payroll tax increases by immediately suspending the Federal unemployment tax, saving employers \$56 per worker per year. The “cost” of this tax suspension is \$7 billion a year and could be offset through reduction in improper government payments, which according to the Administration totaled \$98 billion last year – an increase of \$26 billion over the previous year.

#### **REDUCE REGULATORY AND TAX BARRIERS TO DOMESTIC JOB CREATION:**

Federal regulations and tax law often make it easier for large companies to create jobs overseas than to create jobs here at home. Efforts should be taken to ensure the most favorable environment possible for domestic job creation. Therefore Congress and the Administration should:

**Remove Unnecessary Barriers to Domestic Energy Production:**

- Increased domestic energy production from all sources (including oil, natural gas, oil shale, nuclear, and renewable) has the potential to lower energy costs, reduce our reliance on foreign oil, and create new jobs. Yet regulatory barriers often prevent or unnecessarily delay environmentally sound domestic energy production.
- The Administration and Congress should act to remove the regulatory barriers to energy production and streamline the existing permitting process.

**Provide an Incentive for Companies to Repatriate Earnings Back to the United States:**

- Currently any profits a U.S. based company earns abroad are taxed at the 35% U.S. corporate tax rate when those earnings are brought into the U.S. As a result companies often choose to reinvest their earnings in subsidiaries overseas rather than at home.
- In 2004, Congress allowed companies a limited time to repatriate foreign profits and pay a reduced tax rate of 5.25%. The policy resulted in more than \$350 billion dollars of profits being returned to the U.S. and a windfall to the Treasury of about \$18 billion in tax revenue.
- Providing another limited window for repatriation of foreign earnings would help U.S. companies retain domestic workers and weather the current economic downturn. This would actually increase revenues in the short-term and any estimated long-term losses can be offset through reductions in improper payments.

**EXPAND U.S. EXPORT JOBS:**

Recently President Obama said that increasing U.S. exports by just one percent would create over 250,000 jobs. The independent International Trade Commission has estimated that implementation of the three pending free trade agreements would increase U.S. exports by more than one percent. By failing to act on just the three pending agreements the Congress and the President are preventing the creation of hundreds of thousands of good-paying jobs. Therefore:

**President Obama should submit – and the Congress should quickly approve – these job creating trade agreements.**



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## CONCLUSION

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At the beginning of February 2010, the U.S. Department of Labor announced that 20,000 more jobs were lost in the month of January. This report confirmed that the U.S. economy has lost nearly 3.3 million jobs since President Obama signed the trillion-dollar 'stimulus' into law. Comparatively, Ohio has not fared better, losing 107,800 jobs during that same timeframe.

Clearly, the "stimulus" has not provided the job-creation spark that the Obama and Strickland Administration's lead Ohioans to believe it would. The trillion-dollar 'stimulus' was put together so fast and so secretively that no member of Congress had a chance to read it before it passed, and it shows. Yet, as poorly conceived and badly executed as the trillion-dollar 'stimulus' was, President Obama and Democrats in Congress still think that Washington is the answer to everything. Democrats' proposed government takeover of health care is already hurting small businesses by causing additional uncertainty and stifling job creation. The dismal performance of the 'stimulus' demonstrates the dangers of allowing Washington to take more control over our economy.

Americans are asking 'where are the jobs' but all they are getting from Washington Democrats is more government, more borrowing, and more debt piled on the backs of our kids and grandkids. Our economy will ultimately recover, but it will do so because of the hard work and entrepreneurship of the American people, not wasteful Washington spending. Republicans have proposed better solutions focused on helping Ohio's small businesses create jobs to get our economy moving again.

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- <sup>i</sup> Christina Romer and Jared Bernstein, “Job Impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan,” [The Office of President-Elect Barack Obama](#), 1/09/09
- <sup>ii</sup> CNN’s [“The Situation Room,”](#) 2/09/09
- <sup>iii</sup> Jeanne Sahadi, “Stimulus with Interest: \$1.2 Trillion,” [CNNMoney.com](#), 1/27/09
- <sup>iv</sup> Stephanie Condon, “Poll: Economy Brings Down Obama’s Job Approval Rating,” [CBS News’ “Political Hotsheet” blog](#), 2/11/10
- <sup>v</sup> [“Press Conference by the President,”](#) 2/09/09
- <sup>vi</sup> Jake Tapper, “Farewell ‘Saved or Created’: Obama Administration Changes the Counting of Stimulus Jobs,” [ABC News’ “Political Punch” blog](#), 1/11/10
- <sup>vii</sup> [Boehner and Issa Letter to Vice President Biden](#), 11/24/09
- <sup>viii</sup> Jake Tapper, “Farewell ‘Saved or Created’: Obama Administration Changes the Counting of Stimulus Jobs,” [ABC News’ “Political Punch” blog](#), 1/11/10
- <sup>ix</sup> Matt Kelley, “Jobs Reports ‘Riddled with Inaccuracies,’” [USA Today](#), 11/19/09
- <sup>x</sup> Brett J. Blackledge and Matt Apuzzo, “Stimulus Watch: Stimulus Jobs Overstated in Report,” [Associated Press](#), 10/29/09
- <sup>xi</sup> Cecilia King, “Major Carriers Shun Broadband Stimulus,” [The Washington Post](#), 8/14/09
- <sup>xii</sup> [“Press Conference by the President,”](#) 2/09/09
- <sup>xiii</sup> Matt Kelley, “Stimulus Funds Boost Number of Federal Jobs,” [USA Today](#), 9/23/09
- <sup>xiv</sup> Michael Cooper and Ron Nixon, “Reports Show Conflicting Number of Jobs Attributed to Stimulus Money,” [The New York Times](#), 11/04/09
- <sup>xv</sup> Brian Montopoli, “Obama: Don’t Waste Stimulus Funds,” [CBS’ Political Hotsheet](#), 3/12/09
- <sup>xvi</sup> Comedy Central’s [“The Daily Show,”](#) 11/17/09
- <sup>xvii</sup> Brett J. Blackledge, “No-bid Contracts Mean Higher Costs,” [Associated Press](#), 7/17/09
- <sup>xviii</sup> Randy Ellis, “Oklahoma officials defend stimulus work,” [The Oklahoman](#), 12/07/09
- <sup>xix</sup> [Weekly Republican Address](#), 10/30/09