

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

In our previous two communications in *The Wall Street Journal*, we called attention to the lurking threat our country faces from an exploding national debt fueled by runaway government spending. We urged you to lead a national campaign to restore fiscal soundness to our great country by waging a nonpartisan **War on Waste**.

From a recent U.S. Government Accountability Office report*: “Since 2003...cumulative improper payment estimates have totaled about \$1.4 trillion.” \$1,400,000,000,000. Examples of improper payments are payments to doctors with suspended or revoked medical licenses or to people identified as deceased in federal death files.

A **War on Waste** is long overdue.

We respectfully recommend that you announce to the nation that you are beginning a four-step **War on Waste**, that stamping out profligate government spending is a top priority of your administration.

Step 1 – Start a Transparency Revolution

Publicize every White House expenditure. Direct every department and agency in your administration to follow suit. Classified expenditures would be excluded.

Transparency will be a culture-changing force. It will revolutionize government. It will influence how people vote. Knowing there is nowhere to hide will motivate politicians to earn votes with fiscal prudence rather than wasting taxpayer dollars by buying votes.

We are living in the Information Age and the Big Data world. There is no reason why every government expenditure should not be public, accessible to the voting public via cell phone, computer, and iPad.

Step 2 – Begin a War on Waste

Cut White House expenses 10%. Direct every government department and agency to cut expenses at least 5% (a realistic goal) and report the progress to you monthly.

This **Transparency Revolution**, this **War on Waste** are nonpartisan. It is not about cutting programs. It is about cutting government waste, fraud, duplication, and incompetence. How can removing waste—such as the \$1.4 trillion in improper payments—do anything but increase the efficiency and effectiveness of every affected government program?

Step 3 – Mobilize Government Employees and Investigative Journalists

Our government employs many fine, dedicated public servants. They know where government waste is. So do investigative journalists. Reward those who expose waste with a percentage of the realized savings, a smaller percentage to their department head.

We recommend you hold an annual recognition dinner (maybe on the same night as the White House Correspondents’ Dinner) for those who reported the greatest amount of government waste. It is crucial to include dedicated public servants and investigative journalists in this important initiative.

Step 4 – Report the Progress to the Public

Personally report to the public the progress or lack thereof at least quarterly for the remainder of your administration. Doing so is a clear and powerful statement that you personally and your administration are unequivocally focused on waging a war on the increasingly dangerous deficit spending crisis.

Congratulations, Mr. President. Under your administration, the economy is blooming. Unemployment is at 3.9%, near a 50-year low. For Black Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and those with only a high school diploma, it is at or near record lows. For women, unemployment is near a 66-year low. For youths, a 50-year low.

Wages are increasing. Regulations are far less counterproductive. Corporate tax rates are globally competitive. Domestic energy production is flourishing.

Unfortunately, the federal debt continues skyward. What would happen to our great country if the interest rate on government bonds exceeded 12% as in the early 1980s?

Mr. President, fiscal sanity is every bit as crucial to America’s survival as a strong defense. Only the President can begin a **Transparency Revolution**. Only the President can wage a **War on Waste**. Ronald Reagan once said, “If not us, who? If not now, when?”

The following page lists over 130 names of our country’s leaders who join us in urging you to make the **Transparency Revolution**, the **War on Waste** a primary and relentless initiative.

Respectfully,



Dr. Tom Coburn
Honorary Chairman



Thomas W. Smith
Chairman



Adam Andrzejewski
CEO & Founder

We welcome your support in our nonpartisan **War on Waste**.
It’s Your Government. It’s Your Money.



Join the Transparency Revolution!

For more information, please visit www.OpenTheBooks.com

*U.S. Government Accountability Office, Key Issues, Reducing Government-Wide Improper Payments, Issue Summary.

We endorse the Transparency Revolution and the War on Waste

The Honorable George Allen
Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia
(1994-1998) U.S. Senator (2001-2007)

John Allison
Retired CEO BB&T and The Cato Institute

Robert Alt
President & Chief Executive Officer,
The Buckeye Institute

Brian Anderson
Editor, City Journal

Robert Arnott
Chairman, Research Affiliates, LLC

Morton Blackwell
President, The Leadership Institute

David P. Bossy
President, Mid-America Development
Properties LLC

David Bozell
President, ForAmerica

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President,
Media Research Center

Adam Brandon
President, Freedom Works

The Honorable David A. Brat
Representative VA-7, U.S. House of
Representatives (2014-2019)

Tammy Bruce
Political analyst, columnist and author

Jonathan Bydlak
President, Coalition To Reduce Spending

Patrick Caddell
Pollster & Political Analyst

Jameson Campaigne
Publisher, Jameson Books;
Board Member, OpenTheBooks.com

Derwood Chase
Founder & Chairman Emeritus,
Chase Investment Counsel

John W. Childs
Chairman of the Board & Founder,
J.W. Childs Associates

Warren Coats, Ph.D.
Retired, International Monetary Fund

Angelo Codevilla, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, Boston University

Steve Cortes
Contributor, CNN

Harlan Crow
Chairman, Crow Holdings

Ravenel Curry III
Chief Investment Officer,
Eagle Capital Management, LLC

Timothy G. Dalton, Jr.
Chairman and Founder, Dalton, Greiner,
Hartman, Maher & Co., LLC

The Honorable Jim DeMint
Founding Chairman,
Conservative Partnership Institute

The Honorable John Dougall
Auditor, State of Utah

The Honorable Becky Norton Dunlop
White House Staff (1981-1985)

The Honorable Robert Ehrlich
Governor, State of Maryland (2003-2007)
Member, House of Representatives (1995-2003)

Gene Epstein
Director, The Soho Forum Debate Series

Richard A. Epstein
Laurence A. Tisch Professor of Law,
New York University School of Law

Joseph Farah
Founder & Chief Executive Officer,
WorldNetDaily.com

Peter Farrell
Founder & Chairman, ResMed

The Honorable John J. Faso
Representative NY-19, U.S. House of
Representatives (2017-2019)

Edwin Feulner
Founder, The Heritage Foundation

Devin Foley
Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer,
The Charlemagne Institute

John Fonte
Director, Center for American Common
Culture, The Hudson Institute

Foster Friess
Founder, Foster's Outriders & Patients USA

The Honorable Gay Hart Gaines
Vice Chairman, Corporation for Public
Broadcasting (2003-2010)

Chris Galvin
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer,
Blythebourne Capital LLC

The Honorable Martin Welsh Garrick
Minority Leader,
State Assembly of California (2010)

George Gilder
Chairman, Gilder Fund Management

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
(1979-1999); Speaker of the U.S. House of
Representatives (1995-1999)

Tom Giovanetti
President, Institute for Policy Innovation

The Honorable Barry M. Goldwater, Jr.
Representative CA (Retired), U.S. House
of Representatives (1969-1983)

John C. Goodman
President, Goodman Institute for Public
Policy Research

Susan Gore
Founder, Wyoming Liberty Group

**The Honorable Richard Graber,
Ambassador, Retired**
President, The Lynde & Harry
Bradley Foundation

James Grant
Publisher, Grant's Interest Rate Observer

The Honorable Judd Gregg
Governor, State of New Hampshire
(1989-1993); U.S. Senator (1993-2011)

Lee Habeeb
Vice President of Content, Salem Media Group

The Honorable Josh Haeder
Treasurer, State of South Dakota

Alice Hanley
President, Hanley Petroleum LLC

Victor Davis Hanson
Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution,
Stanford University

Naomi Hass-Perlman
Vice President, The Gatestone Institute

Roger Hertog
President, The Hertog Foundation

Heather Higgins
Chief Executive Officer,
Independent Women's Voice

The Honorable Cindy Hill
Superintendent of Public Instruction,
State of Wyoming (2011-2015)

The Honorable Michael Huckabee
Governor, State of Arkansas (1996-2007)

The Honorable Tim Huelskamp, Ph.D.
President, The Heartland Institute

William Ellery James
Co-Founder and General Partner,
RockPort Capital Partners

David A. Keene
Editor At Large, The Washington Times

Michael Keiser
President, Keiser Golf Properties

Charles Kesler
Editor, Claremont Review of Books

Suhail Khan
Chairman, Conservative Inclusion Coalition

Roger Kimball
Publisher, Encounter Books & The
New Criterion

Charlie Kirk
Founder & Executive Director,
Turning Point USA

Vince Kolber
Chairman, RESIDCO

Derek Kreifels
President, State Financial Officers Foundation

Dr. Arthur Laffer
Founder and Chairman, Laffer Associates

The Honorable Jake LaTurner
Treasurer, State of Kansas

The Honorable Rick Lazio
Representative NY-2, U.S. House of
Representatives (1993-2001)

**The Honorable Howard Leach,
Ambassador, Retired**
President, Leach Capital LLC

Michael Leven
Founder, Michael and Andrea Leven
Family Foundation

The Honorable Bob Livingston
Representative LA-1, U.S. House of
Representatives (1977-1999)

Rich Lowry
Editor, National Review

Robert Luddy
President & Founder,
CaptiVaire Systems

Carrie Lukas
President, Independent Women's Forum

Donald L. Luskin
Chief Investment Officer, TrendMacro

David Marquardt
Founding Partner, August Capital

Ed Martin
President, Phyllis Schlafly Eagles

John Mauldin
Chairman, Mauldin Economics

Ron Maxwell
Filmmaker

The Honorable Bob McEwen
Former Member (Ohio), U.S. House of
Representatives (1981-1993)

John McNabb
Co-Founder of the Trump Leadership Council

Mark Meckler
Founder, Convention of States Action

The Honorable Edwin Meese III
United States Attorney General (1985-1988)

The Honorable Curt Meier
Treasurer, State of Wyoming

George Melloan
Writer

Rebekah Mercer
President, Mercer Family Foundation

Cleta Mitchell, Esq., Partner
Foley & Lardner LLP

Daniel Mitchell
Chairman, Center for Freedom and Prosperity

Lawrence Mone
President, Manhattan Institute For
Policy Research

Stephen Moore
Economist, Committee To Unleash Prosperity

Joseph Morris
Assistant U.S. Attorney General,
Department of Justice (1986-1988)

Deroy Murdock
Contributing Editor, National Review Online

Bill Nascovitz
Chairman & Portfolio Manager,
Heartland Advisors, Inc.

Lisa B. Nelson
Chief Executive Officer, American
Legislative Exchange Council

Grover Norquist
President, Americans for Tax Reform

Eric O'Keefe
Chairman, Citizens for Self-Governance

Peter B. Orthwein
Executive Chairman, Thor Industries, Inc.

Candace Owens
Founder, BLEXIT

Tony Perkins
President, Family Research Council

James Piereson
President, William E. Simon Foundation

Joseph Pinion III
Contributor, CNN

Sally C. Pipes
President & Chief Executive Officer,
Pacific Research Institute

The Honorable Bruce Poliquin
Representative ME-2, U.S. House of
Representatives (2015-2019)

Andrew Puzder
Businessman & Author,
The Capitalist Comeback

Gary Rabine
Chief Executive Officer & Founder,
Rabine Group

Lawrence W. Reed
President, Foundation for
Economic Education

Ralph Reed
Founder, Faith & Freedom Coalition

Alfred Regnery
Chairman, Intercollegiate Studies Institute

R.R. Reno
Editor, First Things

John W. Richards Jr., M.D.
Founder, iMPAC Consulting, LLC

Victor Riches
President & CEO, The Goldwater Institute

Ed Rollins
Reagan-Bush Campaign Manager (1984)

Nina Rosenwald
President, The Gatestone Institute

Charles Royce

Nathan Saint-Amand, M.D.
Trustee, Manhattan Institute For
Policy Research

The Honorable Kelly Schmidt
Treasurer, State of North Dakota

Peter Schweizer
President,
Government Accountability Institute

John Silvia
Founder & CEO,
Dynamic Economic Strategy

Tom Sodeika
Chief Executive Officer,
Precision Payroll of America

Tony Svanascini
Chief Executive Officer, Americaneagle.com

John Tamny
Director, Center for Economic Freedom,
FreedomWorks

Hilary Till
Founder, Premia Research LLC
Board Treasurer, OpenTheBooks.com

Richard Uihlein
Founder, Uline

Richard Vedder, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor Of Economics
Emeritus, Ohio University

Richard A. Viguerie
Chairman, ConservativeHQ.com

Scott Walter
President, Capital Research Center

Richard Weekley
Co-Founder, David Weekley Homes

Dick and Mary Beth Weiss
Principals, Hawthorne Partners

Sheila Weinberg
Chief Executive Officer & Founder,
Truth In Accounting

Raymond James Welder
Chief Executive Officer,
Welder Exploration & Production, Inc.

Brian Wesbury
Chief Economist, First Trust Advisors

**Lieutenant Colonel Allen B. West
(US Army, Retired)**
Member, 112th U.S. Congress

Armstrong Williams
2016 Multicultural Media Broadcast
Owner Of The Year

Ryan Williams
President, The Claremont Institute

Kevin Williamson
Journalist

The Honorable Kimberly Yee
Treasurer, State of Arizona

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