



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **OpenTheBooks Oversight Report – Where’s The Pork?**

*Report maps \$583 billion in fiscal year 2016 federal grants, identifies 50 examples of wasteful projects*

OpenTheBooks.com – a national transparency organization – today released its Where’s the Pork oversight report, including 50 examples of wasteful federal grants, costing taxpayers tens of millions of dollars. Research shows pork-barrel spending is bipartisan, as the top 50 grant-receiving districts are represented by 27 democrats and 23 republicans. The top 10 congressional districts are evenly split: 5 democrats and 5 republicans. Consider just a few examples:

- **Virtual Reality Platform to Teach Children in China How to Cross the Street** – \$183,750 from the Department of Health and Human Services funded a virtual reality platform in China to teach safe pedestrian techniques.
- **New Condom Design with More Lubrication** – \$200,601 in taxpayer money funded a new condom design that lowers the chance of breakage and increases “satisfaction between partners.”
- **Cigar Taste Test** – \$114,375 funded a study to determine whether cigar flavor affected its addictiveness.
- **Sex Ed for Prostitutes in California** – \$1.5 million funded “safer sex and needle” education for prostitutes in California even though prostitution is illegal in the state.
- **Space Racers: An Animated Children’s Cartoon** – \$2.5 million in NASA funding supported the production of two seasons of a children’s cartoon series about galactic adventures.

*“Politicians from both parties argue that there’s nowhere to cut – but our oversight report proves congressional leadership wrong,”* OpenTheBooks CEO and Founder Adam Andrzejewski said. *“As the federal debt surpassed \$21 trillion, our waste book details 50 case studies of taxpayer abuse.”*

The federal government doled out 560,771 grants in fiscal year 2016, totaling \$583 billion. On average, each federal grant amounted to more than \$1 million. These grants flowed to all sorts of entities including state governments, higher education institutions, nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations, individuals, and more.

Fortune 100 companies received nearly \$3.2 billion in grants despite reporting hundreds of billions in revenues (FY2014-2016). Boeing can’t argue it needed \$774 million in federal grants while banking more than \$95 billion in 2016 annual revenue. Meanwhile, some nonprofit organizations depend almost entirely on government money to stay afloat. In their most recent tax documents, Battelle Memorial Institute reported \$4.8 billion in total revenue – and \$4.5 billion of it came from government contracts and grants. Battelle’s CEO pulled down \$2.7 million in compensation and six other employees made more than \$1 million each.

Read the [report](#) and [search](#) an interactive map to see all FY2016 federal grants by ZIP code.

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**Adam Andrzejewski** (say: Angie-eff-ski), **CEO of OpenTheBooks.com**, is available for comment.

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