

The Great Obama "Job Stimulus" Robbery Made Easy

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"Never let a serious crisis go to waste. What I mean by that is it's an opportunity to do things you couldn't do before."

Thus spoketh White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel in November, as Barack Obama and Congressional Democrats made preparations for robbing the American people under the guise of a "job stimulus package."

In point of fact, the 850 page, \$825 billion House legislation is anything but a job stimulus." 85% of it is a wish list of special interest paybacks and "politically correct" subsidies for pet projects. It was pushed through by Obama being virtually unread by Democrats in Congress.

Almost 40% of it is earmarked to large urban states such as California and New York so they can continue retaining their armies of pampered, highly paid marginally productive government employees. These millions of government workers will continue receiving salary increases, bloated pensions and life long medical benefits that private sector employees can only dream about.

Almost 60 Billion Dollars more is earmarked to reward states for increasing their Welfare Rolls. It negates the 1996 bill that has taken millions off welfare, transforming them into productive citizens. Welfare reform is now a dead issue.

To create the illusion of increasing employment (at a cost of billions to the private sector taxpayer), government payrolls are to be bloated by the hiring of an additional 600,000 federal, state and local civil servants.

Among the "smaller ticket items," totally unrelated to job creation:

BEGINNING OF LIST:

1. \$1 billion for Amtrak
2. \$2 billion for child-care subsidies
3. \$50 million for the National Endowment for the Arts
4. \$400 million for global-warming research
5. \$2.4 billion for carbon-capture demonstration projects related to global warming research

An enthusiastic Barack Hussein Obama has said this bill will make "dramatic investments to revive our flagging economy," but that's far from true. Some \$30 billion, or less than 5% of the spending in the bill, is for fixing bridges or other highway projects. There's another \$40 billion for broadband and electric grid development, airports and clean water projects. While inefficient for creating permanent jobs, it does have intrinsic worth. Thanks to Republicans who dug in, about \$20 billion for business tax cuts. This is a very worthwhile stimulus.

Remember, that throughout modern history, jobs programs NEVER provided more than a temporary job stimulus. Only tax cuts have ever provided long term job creation.

Special project spending will go to such things as renewable energy funding (\$8 billion) or mass transit (\$6 billion). The latter is designed to ensure during a time of increasing layoffs in the tax paying private sector, mass transit civil servants (who are paid with private sector taxpayer funds)

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will continue to receive raises and increases to their bloated pensions and medical benefits. These are municipal Union members, a hard core constituency of Obama and other Democrats. In New York City, a transit worker assigned to nothing more than sweeping floors, has a starting salary of \$49,000.00 per year. They retire a fat pension after 20 years.

BACK TO OUR LIST:

6. \$600 million more for the federal government to buy new cars
7. \$7 billion for modernizing federal buildings and facilities
8. \$150 million for the Smithsonian Institute
9. \$252 billion in cash benefits for those who pay income taxes or don't pay income taxes. It's for those who work or don't work. It is even available to Illegal Aliens.
10. \$81 billion for Medicaid
11. \$20 billion for food stamps
12. An additional \$83 billion for the earned income credit for people who don't pay income tax, including Illegal Aliens.
13. \$54 billion will go to federal programs that the Office of Management and Budget or the Government Accountability Office have already criticized as "ineffective" or unable to pass basic financial audits.
14. \$66 billion will go for "Education," as a payoff to teachers unions. In this way, the parents of children in their classes might be unemployed, but teachers are insured that no matter what level of competency, their jobs, salary increases, pensions and lifelong medical care is secure. If you think the intention here is to help kids learn, the House declares on page 257 that "No recipient... shall use such funds to provide financial assistance to students to attend private elementary or secondary schools." This is a way to keep money from going to non-union teachers.

As Speaker Nancy Pelosi put it, "We won the election. We wrote the bill." And the Republicans might want to stand back and let Barack Hussein Obama and his band of thieves take full credit for the theft and results.