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COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
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RANKING MEMBER  
PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

United States Senate  
Senator Tom Coburn, MD

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
RANKING MEMBER  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION

August 4, 2010

Dear Republican Colleague,

With Washington borrowing 41 cents for every dollar we spend, trillion dollar deficits—once unthinkable—are now the norm. Our nation is burdened with a \$13.3 trillion debt, and every American owes nearly \$43,000 of the red ink.

It is no surprise frustrated taxpayers are showing up at town halls across the country demanding answers as to why we are mortgaging the future to finance billion dollar bailouts of failed industries and failed government programs.

Over the past two years, we have held together, demanding new spending be paid for by reducing lower priority government spending and eliminating waste. Unfortunately, those efforts have largely been met with opposition by the majority of the Senate who believe Congress can simply charge the cost to our children and grandchildren. Since PAYGO was enacted with much fanfare in February, the Senate has voted to borrow \$266 billion. We have offered to pay for every penny of that spending and the Majority has rejected every effort to do so.

I am frequently asked for a list of federal programs that could be eliminated to produce savings and begin to slowly put us toward the path of fiscal responsibility. I hope the attached document, which includes examples of wasteful and duplicative government programs, will better equip you and your staff to respond to this same question posed by constituents and the media. This document provides only a few examples of the hundreds of billions of dollars of waste and duplication within the federal bureaucracy.

Please feel free to contact me or my staff for more details or options for government savings.

Sincerely,



Tom A. Coburn, M.D.  
United States Senate