



Thomas A. Schatz
President

March 28, 2007

U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator,

The Senate will soon begin to consider amendments to H.R. 1591, the 2007 emergency supplemental appropriations bill. This legislation spends \$18.5 billion more than the president's budget request and is larded up with pork-barrel projects. Two amendments, S. Amt. 648 and S. Amt. 649, will be offered by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) that will remove two pork-barrel projects that are not related to the Global War on Terrorism or hurricane relief. On behalf of the more than 1.2 million members and supporters of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste (CCAGW), I ask that you support these amendments.

S. Amt. 648 will remove the \$100 million in funding for the Republican and Democratic 2008 national conventions. Probably nothing better demonstrates the outrageous and self-centered spending in the supplemental than support for these partisan activities. Surely, spending money on next year's conventions couldn't be considered an emergency in anyone's ledger.

S. Amt. 649 will remove a \$2 million earmark for the University of Vermont for its Educational Excellence Program. Again, this pork spending has nothing to do with our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq or rebuilding in states devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Even worse, this earmark was inserted in the fiscal 2007 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill that did not pass Congress last year. Yet, it magically reappears in an emergency supplemental.

Here we go again: so much for earmark reform in the 110th Congress.

I urge you to support these two amendments. All votes on H.R. 1591 will be among those considered in *CCAGW's 2007 Congressional Ratings*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas Schatz'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.