

C O U N C I L F O R



Thomas A. Schatz
President

August 3, 2006

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

You are currently debating the fiscal 2007 Department of Defense Appropriations Act, H.R. 5631. Senator Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) will offer several amendments that will cut and eliminate wasteful spending. These amendments, if adopted, will require that earmarks, limitations, and directives to be printed in the conference report; cap conference spending at \$70 million; require that budget justifications and reports for Appropriations Committees be publicly posted on the Department of Defense (DoD) website; direct the DoD to improve its methodology for estimating improper payments related to travel and to provide risk assessments that determine whether or not travel payments are at significant risk for making improper payments; and require analysis of the total cost of earmarks and the effectiveness of each in meeting DoD's goals.

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. All votes on H.R. 5631 will be among those considered for CCAGW's *2006 Congressional Ratings*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas Schatz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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