

AN AMERICAN BUDGET

The President has placed America on a new course, one that promises an era of a prouder, stronger, and more prosperous Nation. This new course has unleashed liberty and opportunity. It also makes the tough choices to produce a more efficient, effective, and accountable Government.

The engines of America are indeed running again. In his inaugural address, the President envisioned a Nation where “prosperity and strength” would return again. He laid out, in his first words as President, a simple but familiar American strategy: “winning again, winning like never before.” Most importantly, the President insisted on a simple, but forgotten principle—America First.

The President’s first Budget was built on the principle that Government is a steward of taxpayer dollars, not an owner. That means fiscal responsibility and prioritizing the most effective programs.

To date, the Administration’s focus on the economic health of the Nation has resulted in the elimination of 22 costly regulations for every new one created. This represents an important first step in cutting red tape, and getting the Federal Government out of the way of the private enterprise system that has made America the greatest force for prosperity in the world.

Under the leadership of the President, the first major re-write of the tax code in more than three decades has been delivered to the American people. The new tax code is designed to restore a healthy American economy—by putting American taxpayers before the Government.

Tax cuts and deregulation will allow us to unleash the American economy. However, economic growth must be met with spending restraint to ensure long-term fiscal health. The Budget takes a critical step toward balance, and bringing greater security for America’s fiscal future.

Washington has a spending problem. Debt and deficits are not only a problem in and of themselves, but they are also the symptoms of something much larger—little appetite in the Congress to restrain spending.

The Budget creates a steady vision inspired by the hardworking spirit of the Nation that will lead us toward prudent spending choices that will promote a safer, more prosperous, and secure America. Economic growth coupled with fiscal restraint is not just the end goal, it is the means by which a vision for a New America can be realized. The pillars of this vision, and thus the Budget, are:

- the safety and security of the American people;
- a stronger, healthier American economy;
- an enhanced quality of life for hardworking Americans; and
- a commitment to a better future.

The safety and security of the American people is the foundation on which the Administration built the Budget. First and foremost, the Federal Government must protect its citizens. This is not just a priority, it is a promise. The Budget makes significant investments in border security, specifically in the Southwest border wall and robust immigration enforcement.

It is imperative to keep those who seek to harm us out of the United States, and the Budget ensures that America can quickly and decisively respond to any threat to U.S. safety, security, and sovereignty.

Furthermore, the Budget rebuilds the military with significant investments dedicated to enhancing the capacity and lethality of America's Armed Forces, missile defense, troop readiness, counterterrorism, and counter proliferation. The Budget strengthens America's capabilities, including nuclear, in space, and cyberspace.

A stronger, healthier American economy promotes opportunity and benefits American families, workers, and companies. When major tax relief and reform are coupled with the elimination of excessive and unnecessary regulations, consumer and business confidence increases and economic prospects rise. The Budget supports important activities aimed at reducing the maze of Federal regulations that often serve as an obstacle to Americans seeking to grow their businesses. When taxpayers are allowed to keep their own money, it not only promotes economic growth, it also rewards the dignity of work. To further support this, the Budget also makes strategic

investments in Federal programs that support American workers. For example, the Budget bolsters the workforce by investing in apprenticeships which are a proven strategy for preparing workers to fill high-growth jobs.

An enhanced quality of life for hardworking Americans reassures both those who have worked throughout their lifetime and those who are still working now that prosperity is possible. The Budget protects programs that retirees rely upon by negotiating better deals and leveraging the U.S. Government's buying power. The Budget also avoids more intrusive, crushing Government growth that would result in further crippling debt leaving less for seniors and future generations.

A commitment to a better future is what the Budget provides for all Americans. When this President was elected, bloated budgets and stagnant economic growth painted a grim picture of a bleak future. If the Federal deficit continued to rise without restraint, the future would indeed be desolate and prompt future calls for tax increases. The Budget shines a light through that darkness. The Budget is a plan that secures generations of Americans through efficient, effective, and accountable Government.