

months of stimulus unemployment benefits for those who have lost jobs in our economy.

As I said earlier, that is the exact opposite of the approach taken by the Democratic majority, which is, as I said before, the way they finance all of these things is through \$70 billion in new taxes. Again, many of those taxes are going to hit squarely on our small businesses, which are the economic engine and the job creators in our economy and are going to hopefully lead us out of this economic malaise and get us on to times where we are growing and expanding and creating more and more jobs. And it adds \$80 billion to the Federal debt, which, as I mentioned earlier, is at \$13 trillion. If you include all of the Federal debt—that amount held by the public, held by foreign countries, held by people here in this country—and then you add in the government, the intergovernmental debt that is owed to various agencies of government, we are at \$13 trillion and counting.

In fact, if you look at the trajectory going into the future, we are talking about doubling and tripling that debt, doubling it in 5 years and tripling it in 10. And we are going to get to the point where over 4 percent of our entire economy is spent just paying interest on the debt.

Think about that. Over 4 percent of our entire economy—we have a \$14 trillion economy—would be spent just paying for interest on our Federal debt. There is going to come a point, 10 years out from now, when the amount of money we have to spend to finance our debt, to pay for the interest on the debt, exceeds the amount we spend on our military. Think about that. We would spend more financing the debt we owe, spend more on interest payments on the debt we owe, than we actually spend on our national security. That is a staggering thought, if you think about it. That is what we have to try to avoid. The only way we do that is by getting serious and starting here and starting now.

My colleagues on the Democratic majority side have said that because they passed pay-go, now we are on a different path; it is a different set of rules, a new sheriff in town; we are going to deal with these issues differently. But unfortunately what we are seeing is the same pattern, the same old way of doing things, which is to declare everything an emergency, borrow the money from China, and hand the bill to our children and grandchildren. It is time that stopped. This amendment gives us an opportunity to do that.

To put things into perspective because I think sometimes these numbers get to be very abstract, and you listen to politicians get up and talk about debt and spending and deficits and that sort of thing, and it is hard to kind of comprehend, if you will, the dimensions we are talking about—I mean, \$13 trillion. It is hard to even contemplate

what \$1 trillion is. So just to put that into proper perspective, if you were to equate a dollar to a second, how much is 1 trillion seconds?

I spoke at Boys State a week ago or a little over a week ago now, and I asked the Boys Staters to sit down and do the arithmetic and to figure out how much 1 trillion seconds is because I think it helps put into perspective how much \$1 trillion is. It is hard to even wrap your mind around what \$1 trillion represents. But if you equate that to 1 trillion seconds, 1 trillion seconds is 31,746 years—31,746 years. That is what 1 trillion seconds represents.

Well, we are not \$1 trillion in debt; we are \$13 trillion in debt. How much is 13 trillion seconds? Over 412,000 years. Over 412,000 years. If you were to help people understand and put it in a certain perspective, that is the amount of money—the \$13 trillion that we now owe, that is today. As I said before, if you look at the publicly held portion of that, we are expected to double that in 5 and triple it in 10 years.

It took us 200 years of American history to get to \$1 trillion, and we have exploded that. If you look at the trendlines and where we are headed as a nation, it is a very, very scary thought. It should be scary to all Americans, and I know it is. It certainly should be scary to the Members of this Chamber. That is why, every time we deal with a major piece of legislation, foremost in our mind ought to be, how is this going to impact the fiscal balance sheet of this country? How is this going to make the next generation—how is it going to improve their standard of living, their quality of life? What is it going to do to them? Are we going to be the first generation to bequeath to the next generation a lower standard of living and a lower quality of life because we haven't been willing to make the hard choices and to make the hard decisions that are so essential if we are going to get our country on a fiscal path?

This amendment does address the issues on which both sides agree. It addresses the issue of extending expiring tax provisions that many people on both sides care about. It extends unemployment insurance until the end of the year. It does extend the doc fix beyond what the base bill does. The base bill extends it through the end of the year 2011. What this amendment would do would be to extend it to end of the year 2012.

So we have an opportunity for Senators to take a vote and to let everybody know, let their constituents know whether they are serious about getting spending under control; about making sure we are doing everything we can to create the right economic conditions for job creation, and by that I mean keeping taxes low on small businesses, not raising taxes by \$70 billion, which is what this bill does; and whether we are serious here in Washington, DC, about listening to the American people and what they are saying with regard

to spending. They want us to cut federal spending. They want us to do what they are having to do in their family budgets and in their small business budgets. What every American is now having to deal with is becoming more fiscally responsible, dealing with austere measures that will keep them from having to go deeply into hock or into bankruptcy. We are doing that here—we are going into bankruptcy. We just have the luxury here in Washington, DC, of being able to continue to borrow and borrow and put it on the credit card and hand the bill to our children and grandchildren. It is time for that to stop. It can stop with this amendment.

I hope that as we continue debate on the underlying bill and get votes on those amendments, my colleagues in the Senate will do the right thing for the future of this country and start to get spending under control and start to pay for what we continue to borrow for so that we are not piling more and more debt on future generations.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. SHAHEEN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. I now ask that we be allowed to proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I rise to submit to the Senate the sixth budget scorekeeping report for the 2010 budget resolution. The report, which covers fiscal year 2010, was prepared by the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended.

The report shows the effects of congressional action through June 7, 2010, and includes the effects of legislation enacted since I filed my last report for fiscal year 2010 on April 15, 2010. The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 13, the 2010 budget resolution.

The estimates show that for fiscal year 2010 current level spending is above the levels provided in the budget resolution by \$3.1 billion for budget authority and \$5.8 billion above for outlays. For revenues, current level shows that \$14.2 billion in room remains relative to the budget resolution level.

I ask unanimous consent that the letter and accompanying tables from CBO be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 10, 2010.

Hon. KENT CONRAD,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2010 budget and is current through June 7, 2010. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010, as approved by the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Since my last letter, dated April 15, 2010, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the Continuing Extension Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-157). The entire act was designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 403 of S. Con. Res. 13. Provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. As a result, the enclosed current level report excludes the budgetary effects of that act, as well as those of other emergency requirements (see footnote 2 of Table 2 of the report).

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010, AS OF JUNE 7, 2010

[In billions of dollars]

	Budget resolution ¹	Current level ²	Current level over under (—) resolution
ON-BUDGET			
Budget Authority	2,897.5	2,900.5	3.1
Outlays	3,010.1	3,015.9	5.8
Revenues	1,612.3	1,626.5	14.2
OFF-BUDGET			
Social Security Outlays ³	544.1	544.1	0.0
Social Security Revenues	668.2	668.1	—0.1

¹ S. Con. Res. 13, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2010, includes \$10.4 billion in budget authority and \$5.4 billion in outlays as an allowance to recognize the potential cost of disasters; those funds will never be allocated to a committee. At the direction of the Senate Committee on the Budget, the budget resolution totals have been revised to exclude those amounts.

² Current level is the estimated effect on revenues and spending of all legislation, excluding amounts designated as emergency requirements (see footnote 2 of Table 2), that the Congress has enacted or sent to the President for his approval. In addition, full-year funding estimates under current law are included for entitlement and mandatory programs requiring annual appropriations, even if the appropriations have not been made.

³ Excludes administrative expenses of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget, but are appropriated annually.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

TABLE 2.—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010, AS OF JUNE 7, 2010

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted: ¹			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	1,633,385
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,656,952	1,651,725	n.a.
Appropriation legislation ²	1,917,749	2,048,775	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	—690,252	—690,252	n.a.
Total, previously enacted	2,884,449	3,010,248	1,633,385
Enacted this session:			
An act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of victims of the earthquake in Haiti (P.L. 111-126)	0	0	—40
Emergency Aid to American Survivors of the Haiti Earthquake Act (P.L. 111-127)	50	50	0
Social Security Disability Applicants' Access to Professional Representation Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-142)	—4	—4	0
United States Capitol Police Administrative Technical Corrections Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-145)	10	6	0
Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act (P.L. 111-147)	20,903	141	—4,380
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148)	8,500	3,130	—580
Satellite Television Extension Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-151)	2	0	2
Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-152)	1,130	220	—1,930
Total, enacted this session	30,591	3,543	—6,928
Entitlements and mandates:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	—14,500	2,066	0
Total Current Level ^{2,3}	2,900,540	3,015,857	1,626,457
Total Budget Resolution ⁴	2,907,837	3,015,541	1,612,278
Adjustment to the budget resolution for disaster allowance ⁵	—10,350	—5,448	n.a.
Adjusted Budget Resolution	2,897,487	3,010,093	1,612,278
Current Level Over Budget Resolution	3,053	5,764	14,179
Current Level Under Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Includes legislation affecting budget authority, outlays, or revenues that was enacted in the first session of the 111th Congress.

² Pursuant to section 403 of S. Con. Res. 13, provisions designated as emergency requirements (and rescissions of provisions previously designated as emergency requirements) are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. The amounts so designated for fiscal year 2010, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted (see footnote 1)	12,042	21,040	—4,475
Temporary Extension Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-144)	7,942	7,901	—704
Continuing Extension Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-157)	14,401	14,337	—1,292
Total, amounts designated as emergency requirements	34,385	43,278	—6,471

³ For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the budget resolution does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level excludes these items.

⁴ Periodically, the Senate Committee on the Budget revises the totals in S. Con. Res. 13, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution. Those revisions are as follows:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Budget Resolution Totals	2,888,691	3,001,311	1,653,682
Revisions:			
For the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (section 401(c)(4))	5	2,004	0
For an act to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products . . . and for other purposes (sections 311(a) and 307)	0	0	40
For the Congressional Budget Office's reestimate of the President's request for discretionary appropriations (section 401(c)(5))	3,766	2,355	0
For further revisions to a bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products . . . and for other purposes (sections 311(a) and 307)	10	13	6
For further revisions to the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (section 401(c)(4))	6	—1,175	0
For an act to make technical corrections to the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes (section 303)	32	36	0
For further revisions to the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (section 401(c)(4))	—11	—11	0
For an amendment in the nature of substitute to H.R. 3548, the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009 (sections 306(f) and 306(b))	5,708	5,708	—38,940
For the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 (section 301(a))	12,500	11,500	9,100
For the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2010 (section 401(c)(4))	0	1,950	0
For further revisions to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 (section 301(a))	—5,220	—6,670	—9,630
For further revisions to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 (section 301(a))	—7,280	—4,830	530
For further revisions to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 (section 301(a))	8,500	3,130	—580
For the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (section 301(a))	1,130	220	—1,930
Revised Budget Resolution Totals	2,907,837	3,015,541	1,612,278

⁵ S. Con. Res. 13 includes \$10,350 million in budget authority and \$5,448 million in outlays as an allowance to recognize the potential cost of disasters; those funds will never be allocated to a committee. At the direction of the Senate Committee on the Budget, the budget resolution totals have been revised to exclude those amounts.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Note: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

OBJECTION TO EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, pursuant to a public letter to Secretary Sebelius dated September 24, 2009, there is a pending objection to unanimous consent requests for the following nominees: Jim Esquea, nominated for HHS Assistant Secretary for Legislation, and Richard Sorian, nominated for HHS Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. I ask unanimous consent that a public letter dated September 24, 2009, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

SEPTEMBER 24, 2009.

Hon. KATHLEEN SEBELIUS,
*Secretary, Department of Health and Human
Services, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SECRETARY SEBELIUS: America's 11 million seniors enrolled in the Medicare Advantage program deserve to be informed of any actions by the federal government that could affect this program and its broad implications. Medicare Advantage Plans and Prescription Drug Plans that provide services through the Medicare program have a constitutional right to provide information about these Medicare programs to their customers. Therefore, I hope you can understand our grave concern with the recent Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services directive barring all such providers from any and all communications of this kind with America's seniors. This gag order must be immediately lifted.

As the Supreme Court has repeatedly recognized, our constitutional tradition is one of "a profound commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open." Health plans, of course, have the right to speak on matters of public concern—a fundamental principle that your Department, until recently, had recognized and respected. Specifically, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) previously noted that there was no legal authority to justify prohibiting a health plan "from informing its members of proposed legislation and exhorting them to express their opinions" about it. In fact, HHS had previously determined that shutting down communication of this sort "would violate basic freedom of speech and other constitutional rights of the Medicare beneficiary as a citizen."

Now, the Obama administration has reversed this longstanding HHS decision—in the midst of a critical debate about the future of health care services in our country—to shut down communication between private companies and America's seniors on an issue that has a direct impact on their health care. And your Department has done so by imposing an industry-wide gag order without apparent justification or basis in law and completely contradictory to your past public guidance and the plain language and spirit of the First Amendment, among the most sacred tenets of our democracy.

America's seniors and the health plans that serve them deserve to have their free speech rights respected. Their rights should not be subject to the whims of any Administration, and the health plans that serve them should not be threatened with punishment if they speak out on a matter of public concern simply because the Administration disagrees with their position.

Until your Department rescinds its gag order and allows seniors to receive information about matters before Congress, we will

not consent to time agreements on the confirmation of any nominees to your Department or associated agencies.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter of such great importance to America's seniors.

Signed,

MITCH MCCONNELL.
JON KYL.
LAMAR ALEXANDER.
JOHN CORNYN.
LISA MURKOWSKI.
JOHN THUNE.
MICHAEL B. ENZI.
CHUCK GRASSLEY.

FREMONT COUNTY FLOODING

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, this past week, Fremont County in my home State of Wyoming has been hit hard by flooding. I want to take this opportunity to commend the communities in Wyoming that have come together and worked so hard to respond to the flooding, to help protect each other's homes, and whose willingness to step up and volunteer to help their neighbors really shows the true Wyoming spirit.

I want to thank the individuals who have been filling sandbags all week. Literally hundreds of thousands of sandbags have been filled to help hold back the floodwaters and protect homes and businesses. I am told that there are more sandbags if we need them and I know that people in my home State won't hesitate for a second to do the hard work that will help protect a neighbor's home or a community business. This truly is a community effort, and I am proud of the example that our small businesses, our community organizations, and Wyoming's volunteers are making.

Nearly 240 Wyoming National Guard members are in Fremont County right now. Their service is critical to our communities in times like these, and I want to recognize and thank them for their hard work. They are making a huge difference in helping make sure that communities like Lander, Ethete, Fort Washakie, and many other places have the help they need.

The extent of the damage from this disaster is still unclear, but our communities—both in Wyoming and in other States that have been hit by natural disasters—must have the resources to recover and put their towns and neighborhoods back together. For those agricultural producers affected by this flood, this is the very reason why I worked with my colleagues during the 2008 farm bill to enact a permanent disaster program—so funding would be available when it is most needed and would not require emergency congressional action.

I know Senator BARRASSO and Representative LUMMIS are working hard to make sure Fremont County can get the support it needs. Their energy and hard work have been critical to the teamwork that we do. Wyoming is a big State, so I am glad that we have always worked together to make sure we

can get different jobs done in different places.

I want to thank everyone who has helped respond to this disaster for their hard work and persistence. They have truly demonstrated what it means to part of the Wyoming community. Our prayers are with everyone at this difficult time.

FLAG DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, today I commemorate the 233rd Flag Day in the United States. On June 14, 1777, nearly a year after our Nation declared its independence, the Second Continental Congress approved the design of our national flag. The 13 stripes that alternate red and white and the white stars on a field of blue have proudly stood as a beacon of liberty and justice around the world ever since.

Flag Day—the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777—was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson in 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until 1949 that President Truman signed an act of Congress designating June 14 of each year as National Flag Day and the corresponding week as National Flag Week.

My home State of Maryland plays an integral role in the rich history of our flag. The flag was the source of inspiration for Francis Scott Key's "Star Spangled Banner" which became our national anthem. That most famous of American flags flew over Fort McHenry in Baltimore Harbor. It bravely withstood the torrent of British buckshot and still hangs today in the Smithsonian Museum of American History. Each year the National Flag Day Foundation of Baltimore, MD, sponsors a moving ceremony at the Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine which brings our community together in celebration and remembrance of our glorious past.

America's flag graces classrooms, statehouses, courtrooms, and churches, serving as a daily reminder of this Nation's past accomplishments and ongoing dedication to safeguarding individual rights. The brave members of our Armed Forces carry "Old Glory" with them as they fulfill their mission to defend the blessings of democracy and peace across the globe; our banner flies from public buildings as a sign of our national community; and its folds drape the tombs of our distinguished dead. The flag is a badge of honor to all and a sign of our citizens' common purpose.

This week and throughout the year let us do all we can to teach younger generations the significance of our flag. Its 13 red and white stripes represent not only the original colonies