



THE AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY



The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker-Elect
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker-Elect Boehner:

The signers of this letter, representing millions of members in all fifty states, support your efforts to make changes in the rules of the House that would be a first step to help, rather than hinder, efforts by members of the House to reduce wasteful spending and reverse the massive annual spending increases in recent years. We urge you to resist any efforts to force changes that would dilute these provisions.

Specifically these rules would:

- Eliminate the Gephardt Rule that allows for an automatic increase in the debt limit when a budget resolution is adopted.
- Require any bill that increases mandatory spending to cut an equal amount of spending elsewhere in the budget.
- Prohibit the use of tax increases to “pay-for” new mandatory spending.
- Add a “spending reduction account” to appropriation bills so that motions to strike money from a bill can be placed in this account so that the actual amount of money appropriated is reduced.
- Eliminate the prohibition against amendments to strike any wasteful spending from the transportation bills while protecting the Highway Trust Fund.

Other rules that increase transparency, such as allowing a point of order against a bill that has not been available for three calendar days and making the committee process, including the markup of legislation, more open and available to public view, are positive steps to make members of Congress more accountable to those who elected them.

These changes are only a first step in changing the culture of spending that has grown worse each year and we look forward to the next step, which is making the actual spending reductions necessary to begin reducing our massive national debt.

Signed,

David A. Keene
Chairman
The American Conservative Union

William Wilson
President
Americans for Limited Government

Tim Phillips
President
Americans for Prosperity

David N. Bossie
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