



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

May 8, 2008

To: All Members, U.S. Congress
Subject: Opposition to non-emergency, non-defense appropriations in supplemental

Dear member of Congress,

Possibly as early as this week, you will be asked to vote on the “Emergency Supplemental” wartime appropriations bill. **On behalf of American taxpayers I urge you to oppose any spending in this package that is not related to the troops.**

Supplemental spending outside the normal budget process has ballooned in recent years. What began as a limited effort to address unexpected reconstruction costs in the wake of the attacks of September 11th and the War in Afghanistan, the supplemental appropriations have grown in size and scope. Having clearly outgrown their initial purpose, they impose an ever increasing burden on the American taxpayers. At the same time, members of congress have come to see the supplemental process as a vehicle to get unrelated non-defense appropriations enacted.

This year’s supplemental will be broken up into three components, the third of which is said to comprise additional, largely unrelated domestic appropriations.

While the total level of unrelated spending remains unclear, the packet, among other things, is expected to contain an expansion of unemployment insurance to the tune of \$16 billion at a time when the unemployment rate remains relatively low by historic standards. Increased GI education benefits for veterans at a cost of up to \$52 billion over ten years are also likely to be included.

The price tag relating to troop-related appropriations is already staggering. **As American taxpayers they struggle to make ends meet, they are relying on you to protect their pocket books and to reject non-emergency, non-defense spending in the Emergency Supplemental.**

Onward,

Grover Norquist

1920 L Street NW

Suite 200

Washington, DC

20036

T: (202) 785-0266

F: (202) 785-0261

www.atr.org