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## ATR Letter to Congress: No More Spending Until Obama Releases Latest Economic Data

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Americans for Tax Reform president Grover Norquist today sent the following open letter to Congress:

This week, you will continue to vote on multi-hundred billion dollar [appropriations bills](#) that continue to put the budget into the red and keep taxpayers on the hook. At the same time, the [Obama Administration](#) this week announced it was putting off revealing the updated over-spending (aka "deficit") numbers for this fiscal year **until the August recess**.

The clear intent is to neither impede the march toward high-tax government medicine, nor to give the Congress any pause in writing more checks on the taxpayer account.

Reports indicate that the spending-over-taxes for 2009 [may approach \\$2 trillion](#). This is a vast sum when one considers that it's [over four times last year's level](#), and is equal to all of federal spending as recently as [2002](#)!

As such, Congress simply doesn't have all the facts to proceed. It's unconscionable to be voting on bills totaling hundreds of billions of dollars each without knowing how much of an over-spending problem we have

**Therefore, I am calling on the Congress to suspend all legislative activity that involves appropriating taxpayer dollars until the Obama Administration sees fit to release its latest estimate of the over-spending amount for 2009.**

Sincerely,

Grover Norquist, President  
Americans for Tax Reform