

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20 JULY 2009

CONTACT: John Kartch  
jkartch@atr.org  
202-785-0266

## Ten Most Memorable Quotations of Obama's First Six Months

WASHINGTON, D.C.— To mark the occasion of the first six months of the Obama administration, Americans for Tax Reform has compiled ten memorable quotations by the President and his staff:

1. On Feb. 9, Obama claims the “stimulus” plan is free of pet projects and earmarks:

*“What it does not contain, however, is a single pet project, not a single earmark, and it has been stripped of the projects members of both parties found most objectionable.”*

[\[Transcript\]](#) [\[Video\]](#)

2. Feb. 24, Obama makes his [first address](#) to a joint session of Congress and claims he doesn't believe in “bigger government”:

*“As soon as I took office, I asked this Congress to send me a recovery plan by President's Day that would put people back to work and put money in their pockets, not because I believe in bigger government -- I don't -- not because I'm not mindful of the massive debt we've inherited -- I am.”*

3. Though his budget doubles the national debt in ten years, [Obama claims](#) the following on March 24:

*“It's with a budget that leads to broad economic growth by moving from an era of borrow-and-spend to one where we save and invest.”*

4. On March 30, the day after he fired GM CEO Rick Wagoner, Obama makes the following claim:

*“Let me be clear: the United States government has no interest or intention of running GM.”*

5. On April 1, the day Obama's pledge-breaking 61 cents per pack increase in the federal excise tax on cigarettes went into effect, White House spokesman Reid H. Cherlin [has the audacity to claim](#) Obama's central campaign pledge not to raise “any form” of taxes on those making less than \$250,000 per year only applies to “income or payroll” taxes:

***"The president's position throughout the campaign was that he would not raise income or payroll taxes on families making less than \$250,000, and that's a promise he has kept."***

6. On April 14, asked about the taxpayer tea parties attended by [at least 600,000 people](#) the following day, Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs [said](#):

***"I don't know if the President is aware of the events."***

7. On April 15, when [challenged](#) as to how Obama squares his promise not to raise taxes on those making less than \$250,000 per year while simultaneously raising taxes on cigarettes, Gibbs says:

***"People make a decision to smoke."***

8. Minutes later, [during the same press conference](#), Gibbs states that Obama's tax pledge has "no caveats", directly contradicting his fellow spokesman Reid H. Cherlin (see #5 above)

***"The statement didn't come with caveats."***

9. On June 16, in an interview with the [Wall Street Journal](#), Obama once again claims he has a limited government philosophy:

***"I think the irony ... is that I actually would like to see a relatively light touch when it comes to the government."***

10. On July 7, referring to his "stimulus", Obama [says](#):

***"There's nothing that we would have done differently."***

BONUS: On July 16, Vice-President Biden [said](#) the government is going bankrupt, and in order to prevent this from happening, the government should spend more money:

***"We have to go spend money to keep from going bankrupt"***

*Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [jkartch@atr.org](mailto:jkartch@atr.org).*

###