

WPA Article for the Website
12-3-08

In this time of economic turmoil, we as a country must come together as never before – or possibly as we never have in the past 50+ years. The Government has rebated us taxes, providing Americans with extra cash, to no avail as America has become a non producing nation. We are a nation of consumers, or as some would like to call it, supply side economics. The supply side economics bubble has burst, our economy is not sustainable and we must look to new innovative ways of thinking, or look back to see what brought us from the brink in the past.

When the present administration entered office, the previous administration left us with a balanced budget its last three years. Although, at the end of the previous administration's term we were 4.3 Trillion Dollars in accrued debt, this took America more than 40 years to accumulate. In the past 8 years our national debt has risen at an accelerated pace to 10.7 Trillion Dollars. Our unfunded liabilities, which include Medicare Part D Prescription Drugs Program, as well as the war in Iraq, we approach 53 Trillion Dollars in unfunded liability. This comes to almost \$167,000 per person in America.

We must set our table for the next generation and invest in our infrastructure for America. Our infrastructure has laid dormant for the better part of 35 years. The Federal Government must implement a 2 Trillion Dollar work product administration plan {the equivalent of the Chinese government's 585 Billion Dollar Infrastructure Bill just passed}, which will address our roads, electrical infrastructure (Edison must be laughing as he would recognize the electrical grid as being the same as when he passed), as well as addressing our need for a carbon neutral form of high speed travel. In Florida we need high speed rail, which can be fulfilled in conjunction with green technology, such as a combination of solar, wind and nuclear fuel.

We can ensure American jobs by requiring any contractor who will be part of the renewal of America to hire 85% American labor and use only American made heavy equipment (whether in the construction of new roads, bridges, electrical grids or high speed rail). There are no high speed locomotives made in America, but three types are manufactured abroad. Consider this proposition, a manufacturer in Europe or Asia competing for a 1.5 Billion Dollar contract, would be incentivized to open a plant in Tennessee, Ohio or out west. This would mean jobs...permanent, well paid jobs that would include spares for the locomotive and high speed rail cars for years to come. The mass movement of people can be carbon neutral, alleviating the downward spiral to global warming.

We have much to do and we can not squander our resources any longer. We must invest and reinvest in ourselves. A country of our size and stature cannot be a nonproducing nation. We must be a manufacturing nation in order to sustain our population and maintain the middle class.

I ask each of you to support the Federal Government and our President Elect, Barack Obama, in establishing a WPA program, which will put America back to work, reinvest in ourselves, and create a new future for our children.

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