

Community Comment for June 5, 2013

This is Phil Arnot for Community Comment on KINS Radio.

In a recent letter from the Heritage Foundation, they reported the following:

When Congress was negotiating with President Obama last January about the Fiscal Cliff, the President said "We don't have a spending problem.... We have a health-care problem."

In February, House Minority leader Nancy Pelosi said "It is almost a false argument to say we have a spending problem, we have a budget=deficit problem. They further reported that in that same month Congressman Steny Hoyer, said "the Country has a paying-for problem."

The spending is out of control. It shot up in 2009, President Obamas' first year in office. The Foundation believes that the liberal spending policies are putting America on the path to economic disaster.

Too many in Congress take the "balanced approach" that this Administration proposes, which means more taxes now and promised spending cuts in the future that never happens.

President Obama said the Sequester was the cause of White House tours being closed. Those tours cost about \$74,000 a week, but at the same time our President takes a million dollar golf vacation with Tiger Woods in Florida.

And speaking of our President's travel, Air Force One costs about \$175,000 per hour to fly. A trip from Washington D.C. to California, which is about 10 hours round trip costs us the taxpayers close to \$2 million dollars.

His trips to Hawaii, about \$4 Million Dollars, and that is for he and his family to have a vacation. Now, keep in mind that this is only 1 plane, so you have to double the cost when a second plane goes along to carry vehicles and other equipment for his protection.

The Heritage Foundation lists some specific expenditures that I thought were noteworthy:

The Department of Agriculture's Office of the Chief Information Officer funded \$2 million intern programs. Only one intern was hired full time as a result.

The Internal Revenue Service stored 22,486 items of unused furniture in a warehouse at an annual cost of \$862,000.

Federally subsidized Amtrak lost \$84.5 million on its food and beverage services in 2011, and \$833.8 million over the past 10 years. It has never broke evewn on these services.

Too many swallow the "balanced approach" that President Obama and the liberal leaders in Congress propose. That means more taxes now and promised spending cuts in the future that never materialize. The liberals never get enough taxes to satisfy ^{them} ~~me~~, and they always pretend the country will fall apart if a single dollar is cut from the budget.

I leave you with a point to ponder. What can we all do to cut the bloated and wasteful Federal Government Spending.

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