

10-9-12

This is Phil Arnott for community comment on K INS radio.

For several years I have donated to a charitable group called citizens against Government waste their symbol is CAG W. The object of CAG W is to cut back or eliminate waste in our federal government. It's a big job, but somebody has to do it. As we have seen our leaders in Washington DC they are not going to do it. In its latest publication CAG W reported on specific programs that would cut \$1.8 trillion over the next five years.

IM not going to mention each and every program as there are too many, but I have picked out several of the most wasteful programs for you to consider. For each agency or program I will give you the amount of waste for one year. Here they are:

Eliminate the rural utilities service 9,621,000,000. Terminate the agriculture credit insurance fund, over \$6 billion eliminate the US Department of agriculture grant programs for rural development over \$4 billion. Reform crop insurance user fee \$1,100,000,000. Remove the tax exemptions of the Farm credit service and save \$425 million. It eliminate the sugar subsidy and save \$1,200,000,000. Reduce funding by 30% of the National Weather Service and the environmental satellite, data and information service and you will save over \$700 million cancel the F 35 joint strike fighter and replace it with F-16s and F-18s and save \$8,500,000,000. Restructure science and technology programs and save \$434 million. Reduce cost growth in the Department of defenses major defense acquisition portfolio by 20% and save almost \$3 billion. Replace military personnel in some support positions with Sue. Civilian employees at Department of Defense and save over \$1 billion. Reform student aid and save \$3,600,000,000. Reduce the size of the strategic petroleum reserve and save \$700 million. Repeal oil and gas company tax preferences and save almost \$5 billion eliminate the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice assistance grants and save over \$500 million. Eliminate drug interdiction and international activities to control the supply of drugs and save \$1,681,000,000. Repeal the service contract act and save \$930 million. Eliminate the millennium challenge accounts and save over \$1 billion. Reduce the United States after annual contributions to the United Nations by 25% and save almost \$2 billion. Eliminate the US geological survey and save over \$1 billion. Verify income of earned income tax credit participants and save \$8,500,000,000. Eliminate funding for the new starts transit program and save over \$2 billion. Establish cost-based fees for air traffic control services and save \$2 billion. Reduce federal aid for mass transit and save over \$12 billion. Sell excess federal real property and save \$3 billion. Target funding reductions in formula grant programs in areas of higher income and save over \$2 billion

I leave you with a point to ponder: I think each and every one of us should contact our representatives in Congress and urge them to make some of these cost cuts and save us trillions of dollars.

This is Phil Arnott for community comment.