

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

Several years ago I ran into a friend of mine at this radio station and he said he was frustrated about not having enough topics to comment on. I said to him, you live in Arcata and therefore you should never run out of topics. He laughed and said you are probably right.

Well my interest is in the well-being of this country and so I watch closely as to what is happening in our nation's capital. The politicians can spend our money faster than they can collect it. In a recent article in the Wall Street Journal I was reminded of that fact. The article was actually a quote from Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona. He said taxpayer funded science projects even sounded like they were concocted at a fraternity house rather than a government research agency. The national science foundation is studying whether a koozie dies, in fact, keep a can of beer cold, what makes those looking for love online D side to swipe right, and how to date someone out of your league. It is also developing a fat detector to determine if someone is overweight just by looking at their face. And this agency has concluded that pizza is as addictive to college students as crack. None of these studies is likely to unlock a cure to cancer or solve any of the other real challenges facing our nation. But each will add to our national debt which now exceeds \$18 trillion. Spending \$1 million to put a dozen monkeys on a treadmill may sound totally bananas to the average taxpayer with a median household income of \$54,000, but it's pocket change to the big spenders in Washington who collectively burned through \$7 million a minute.

And that doesn't even count for the money that is wasted outside of our country such as the \$150 billion given to a ran and without any conditions. Those countries must think that the people running the United States of America are really stupid.

When you read about a foundation or agency such as this don't you wonder about the rest of our government and whether our government is really looking out for our best interests.

I for one would vote for term limits on our politicians that go to Washington DC. We have done it in California by limiting our governor to two terms. This limitation should have been in place many many years ago

It's not just the politicians in Congress that spend the money, our president has shared in this extravagant waste of the tax paying dollars. Besides Mrs. Obama taking her children to ^{China} Hawaii and incurring taxpayers debt of around \$300,000, Pres. Obama has arranged a meeting in one of the richest communities in Southern California where the average family income is about \$150,000 a year.

The cost to fly Air Force One is estimated at \$750,000 an hour. Round-trip from Washington DC to California is 10 hours. My calculations show that the cost of the airplane alone would be over \$7 million. We need to do something about this wasteful spending or our children and grandchildren will be suffering like no other generation before them.

I leave you with a point to ponder: don't you think that we need an outsider to head up our government so that necessary changes can be made in the federal establishment, because the insiders are not going to do it.

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