



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

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The Democratic Budget by the Numbers

Deficits

- Reduces the deficit by \$384 billion more than the President's budget, stabilizing the deficit at less than 3 percent of the economy.
- Reduces debt as a percentage of the economy beginning in 2015.
- Replaces the Budget Control Act's across-the-board spending sequester with greater deficit reduction from targeted policy choices, including both revenues and spending.

Revenues

- Makes middle-class tax relief permanent and assumes savings from not extending the Bush tax cuts for millionaires, closing tax loopholes that provide incentives to ship jobs overseas, and reducing special tax breaks for the super-wealthy.
- Supports the "Buffett Rule" that ensures that the wealthy do not face a lower effective tax rate than working families.

Mandatory spending

- Preserves the Medicare guarantee for seniors; in contrast to the Republican budget, which shifts rising costs onto seniors and individuals with disabilities by turning the promise of Medicare into a voucher of declining purchasing power.
- Protects Medicaid, unlike the Republican budget, which dismantles Medicaid, cuts it by \$810 billion, and repeals the Medicaid expansions under the Affordable Care Act.
- Retains retirement security for seniors, opposing the privatization of Social Security.
- Creates jobs now through the President's proposed jobs investments in infrastructure, education, and veterans.
- Assumes mandatory spending cuts that could come from reductions in agricultural direct payments, reducing duplication of services identified by the Government Accountability Office, and improving the solvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, among other changes.

Discretionary spending

- Abides by the Budget Control Act's discretionary levels instead of walking away from a bipartisan, bicameral compromise.

- Closely follows the President's levels of regular discretionary spending for 2013, but does not assume the President's specific programmatic cuts.
- Does not assume funding for overseas contingency operations after 2014, saving \$322 billion compared with the President's budget.
- Funds program integrity measures that will tighten implementation in mandatory spending programs and help ensure taxpayers pay what they owe.