



COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

MAJORITY CAUCUS

U.S. House of Representatives
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www.budget.house.gov



Wartime Budget to Secure America's Future

FACT SHEET ON THE FY 2003 BUDGET RESOLUTION

March 13, 2002

The House Republican budget, *A Wartime Budget to Secure America's Future*, responds to the triple threat of the terrorist attack, war on terrorism, and the economic recession. It's a balanced budget that meets America's most pressing priorities by ensuring the national, economic, and personal security of all Americans.

Americans are asking three very important questions:

- Is America safe?**
- Will I have a good paying job?**
- Do my family and I have a secure future?**

Our budget answers all three with a resounding yes!

For more info on the
*Wartime Budget to Secure
America's Future*,
go to www.budget.house.gov

National Security – Is America Safe?

The first responsibility of government is to protect its citizens. If it doesn't, nothing else really matters. The House Republican wartime budget meet that responsibility. Our budget provides the President with all the resources necessary to meet the nation's top priority of winning the war and strengthening our homeland security, while investing in the future of our armed forces and keeping our promise to our veterans.

Winning the War – The budget provides \$393.8 billion for national defense – ***the largest increase in 20 years***. Those resources will be used to win the war on terror by: supporting troops with specific antiterrorism mission; enhancing intelligence for funding programs that proved effective in Afghanistan; and by providing special munitions.

Securing the Homeland – Homeland defense and security became the nation's top priority in the aftermath of September 11 and the subsequent threat of biological weapons. Our budget responds with ***\$37.7 billion for homeland security in FY 2003 – almost double*** what was spent before September 11. Those resources will protect Americans in a variety of ways including:

- ▶ **First responders: \$3.5 billion** to help local police, fire, and emergency personnel get the training, personnel, and equipment they need to respond to a terrorist attack.
- ▶ **Bioterrorism: \$5.9 billion to counter bioterrorism** through research, vaccine stockpiles, improved information networks, and enhancements in the health care system.
- ▶ **Secure Borders: \$10.6 billion (22% increase)** to secure America's borders, including increases for the INS, Customs Services, and Coast Guard to hire additional agents and implement better information systems.
- ▶ **Aviation Security: \$4.8 billion** for aviation security to implement new airport security equipment and to hire more screeners and law enforcement personnel.
- ▶ **Food Supply Safety: \$880 million** to protect the nation's food supply including enhanced consumer protection efforts, pest and animal disease prevention, and research.

Investing in Future – The budget continues the effort to modernize the armed forces for 21st century combat while maintaining readiness and supporting the men and women in uniform. Includes:

- ▶ **4.1 % across-the-board pay raise** for military personnel, on top of this year's 4.6 % raise.
- ▶ \$68.7 billion for military procurement.
- ▶ \$140.4 billion – a \$12.7 billion increase – for readiness to conduct operations.
- ▶ \$53.9 billion for research, development, testing, and evaluation – the seed money for the next generation of weapons.

Keeping our Promise to Veterans – The budget recognizes the immeasurable contributions of our 25 million veterans, and responds by building on the extensive enhancements we've provided for veterans benefits in the past few years, including:

- ▶ **Veterans' Healthcare:** Provides \$23.2 billion (11 % increase) to ensure veterans receive high-quality healthcare. (Does not assume the \$1,500 deductible proposed by the administration).
- ▶ **Concurrent Receipt:** Provides reasonable, generous support, and paves the way for real benefit
- ▶ **Entitlement Benefits:** Provides support to ensure veterans receive accurate and timely entitlement benefits.
- ▶ **Veterans' Cemeteries:** Continues our commitment to ensure that veterans' cemeteries remain national shrines.

Economic Security – Will I Have a Good Paying Job?

A strong economy and more jobs is the key to ensuring economic security for America's working families. It is American workers who drive the economy and sustain this country. Our budget recognizes this fact and works to foster economic growth and create jobs, while investing in agriculture,

transportation, trade, and energy.

Paying Debt: The budget makes government live within its means so we can ***return to paying down debt by 2004.***

- **Creating Jobs** – 1 million jobs were lost on September 11th. Last week, the Senate *finally* followed the House's lead to pass tax relief to create jobs and resources to protect workers.
- **Agriculture** – Funds a comprehensive farm bill that maintains an adequate safety net for farmers by expanding market opportunities and reducing regulatory burdens.
- **Transportation** – Secures America's infrastructure by supporting critical homeland security initiatives like aviation security; and fully funding highway and highway safety programs.
- **Trade** – Promotes trade and access to American products.
- **Energy** – Meets America's energy needs by providing for our immediate demands, while advancing our efforts toward future energy solutions. The House has passed legislation to solve the nation's energy problems, but the Senate has yet to act. Meanwhile, the budget funds priority programs, such as weatherization for the poor, and weapons stockpile stewardship.

Personal Security – Does My Family Have a Secure Future?

The House Republican balanced budget ensures a more secure future for American families by investing in important priorities like education, healthcare, and retirement security.

- **Education** – Continues our long-standing commitment to secure a quality education for all Americans and ensure excellence in our education system. Our budget builds on the significant increases in resources we've provided for education over the past four years – a ***14.3% average annual increase.***
 - ▶ \$1 billion increase for Special Education – full funding of IDEA within ten years.
 - ▶ \$1 billion increase in Title I grants to low-income schools.
 - ▶ \$1 billion for Reading First program.
 - ▶ \$130 million increase for Head Start.
 - ▶ \$100 million for charter school construction.
 - ▶ tax credit to help parents transfer their child from a failing school.
 - ▶ \$2.85 billion to give states and school districts the flexibility to train, recruit, and retain quality teachers.
 - ▶ 3.6 % increase for minority colleges.
 - ▶ Maintains the maximum Pell Grant at a historic high of \$4,000.
- **Healthcare** – Continues our commitment to strengthening America's healthcare safety net and expanding access to quality, affordable healthcare.
 - ▶ **Medicare Prescription Drugs:** \$350 billion for prescription drug coverage for

- seniors and reforms to strengthen and preserve Medicare.
- ▶ **National Institutes of Health [NIH]:** Completes our 5-year effort to double the funding for NIH to help researchers find cures faster for diseases like cancer, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
 - ▶ **Veterans Healthcare:** provides \$23.9 billion (12 % increase) to ensure veterans receive high-quality healthcare.
 - ▶ **Health Center Programs:** provides \$114 million increase, allowing for the expansion of rural health centers to serve more Americans in rural areas.
- **Retirement Security** – Builds on our long-standing commitment to ensure a more secure future for America's seniors and future retirees by strengthening Medicare and Social Security, providing a prescription drug benefit, and paying down historic amounts of debt.
- ▶ Provides ***\$350 billion for prescription drug coverage*** for seniors and ***Medicare reforms*** to strengthen and preserve the program.
 - ▶ Guarantees seniors will see ***no change*** in current benefits, while preserving Social Security for future retirees.
 - ▶ Builds on our sizeable down-payment on Social Security reform – ***retiring nearly ½ trillion dollars in public debt*** – by getting back on track to ***paying down debt by 2004***.

The Answer is Yes!

The answers to all three questions is a resounding *yes!* Our wartime budget makes America safer, the economy stronger, and secures the future for every American family