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THE DEMOCRATS' DISCRETIONARY SPENDING

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Since he took office in January 2009, President Obama has signed legislation that resulted in an 84-percent increase in domestic discretionary spending. This brief document summarizes those increases.

Table 1 below shows the major spending in both defense and non-defense discretionary spending, excluding emergencies. It then breaks out the increases in non-defense discretionary spending from regular appropriations bills; from the 2009 "stimulus" bill; and from the combination of the two. The table also reflects the annual percentage increases and the total percentage increases since 2008.

Figure 1 on the next page illustrates the increases graphically.

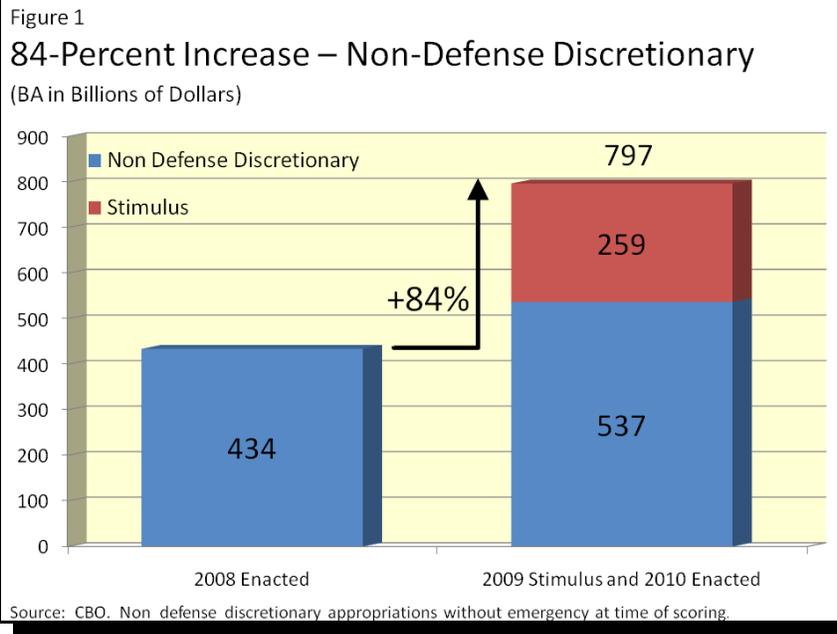
Table 1: Discretionary Spending (excluding emergencies)
(budget authority in billions of dollars)

Table with 4 columns: Base Spending, Scored 2008, Scored 2009a, Scored 2010. Rows include Defense (Function 050), Non-Defense, Totals, Non-Defense % Annual Increase, Non-Defense % Increase 2008-10, Discretionary 'Stimulus' Spendingb, and Non-Defense % Increase with 'Stimulus' 2008-10.

Source: Congressional Budget Office Score of Enacted Appropriations.

a President Obama signed Public Law 111-8, providing appropriations for all agencies and programs other than those for the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, Veterans Affairs, and Military Construction, which had been provided in Public Law 110-329, signed by President Bush.

b Reflects only the fiscal year 2009 discretionary spending portion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The total estimated cost of the act is \$862 billion.



This document was prepared by the Republican staff of the Committee on the Budget, U.S. House of Representatives. It has not been approved by the full committee and may not reflect the views of individual committee members.