

A NEW ERA OF RESPONSIBILITY: RENEWING AMERICA'S PROMISE

President Obama's Fiscal 2010 Budget Overview

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: OPPORTUNITY AND PROGRESS FOR WOMEN

Since an era of irresponsibility has left us with record deficits and an economy in recession, we need to make the hard choices to bring the deficit down and to act boldly and wisely to lay the foundation for long-term economic growth -- ending our dependence on foreign oil and creating millions of clean energy jobs, bringing down the high cost of health care, and giving all our kids a world-class education so they can compete in the 21st century economy.

This budget is up-front and honest about the challenges we face – and makes the tough choices necessary to get our country back on track by asking every American to step up in the shared sacrifices we'll need to make.

The chronic problems which have held back our nation's progress are holding back women's progress. The President believes that we as a country need to take a hard look at where we're falling short, who we're leaving out, and what that means for the prosperity and vitality of our nation. His budget works to give women and families the tools that they need to take advantage of the opportunities of this new century. The budget will:

Prevent teen pregnancy with evidence-based programs. The budget supports state, community-based, and faith-based efforts to reduce teen pregnancy using evidence-based models. The program will fund initiatives that stress the importance of abstinence while providing medically-accurate, age-appropriate and complete information on contraception and sexual health.

Reinvigorate federal civil rights enforcement. The budget includes \$145 million for the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division to strengthen enforcement against racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, religious, and gender discrimination.

Cut taxes for 95 percent of working families. The President's budget provides tax cuts for 95 percent of working families across the country. By making the Making Work Pay tax credit permanent, the budget helps middle class families, who are being squeezed by rising costs and stagnating wages, make ends meet. The budget expands the child tax credit, increasing tax refunds for millions of working families. And the President's proposal also makes permanent the American Opportunity Tax Credit, providing financial assistance for individuals seeking a college education of up to \$2,500.

Expand coverage, reduce the cost and boost the quality of health care. High health care costs are a burden on families, businesses, and the entire country. For the future fiscal and economic health of our nation, we must bring down costs, boost quality, and expand coverage. That's why in this budget, the Administration establishes a reserve fund of \$634 to finance fundamental reform. This is a significant down payment on health care reform, and the President will work

with Congress to craft a plan that pays for itself, brings down costs, guarantees choice and portability, invests in prevention and wellness, and improves patient safety and quality care.

Begin the doubling of funding for cancer research. Every family knows someone who has fought cancer. To fight this disease, the budget begins the investment to double funding for cancer research, including more than \$6 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). These resources will be committed strategically to have the greatest impact on developing innovative diagnostics, treatments, and cures for cancer. This initiative builds on the unprecedented \$10 billion provided in the Recovery Act to support NIH research in 2009 and 2010.

Help small businesses and entrepreneurs. More than one-third of all small businesses in America are owned by women. The budget works to help strengthen these businesses with improved marketing, technical, and contracting assistance. The President's proposal strengthens initiatives such as Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers, SCORE, and micro-loan technical assistance, as well as incorporating new strategies. The budget also supports small business access to federal prime and subcontracting opportunities and improvements to procurement data.

Make a new investment in early childhood education. We know that a dollar invested in early education will pay off handsomely as these children grow older. That is why the Administration will broaden the reach of early education programs and boost their quality, encouraging new investment, a seamless delivery of services, and better information for parents about program options and quality. In addition, through funds from the Recovery Act and this budget, the President will provide funding to double the number of children served by Early Head Start and expand Head Start, both of which have proven to be successful with younger children. Finally, the Department of Health and Human Services will begin a major effort to ramp up a new Nurse-Home Visitation program. Rigorous research has shown that a well-structured program can have large and measurable impacts in helping at-risk expectant and new parents give their children a healthy start in life.

Support innovative and effective strategies to improve achievement. The budget invests in school systems and non-profit organizations with demonstrated track records of success in raising student achievement to expand their work or implement new innovative approaches through the Innovation Fund. The President's plan supports "Promise Neighborhoods," a new effort to test innovative strategies to improve academic achievement and life outcomes in high-poverty areas modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone.

Expand access to college. The budget expands the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,500 for the next school year, and ensures that future financial aid is reliable and constant. The budget guarantees student access to education loans, protecting students from turmoil in the financial markets and ensuring high-quality services by competitive, private providers. The President's proposal also overhauls the inefficient and inequitable Perkins Loan program.

Provide initial funding for 50,000 more cops on the beat. The budget includes funding to begin hiring 50,000 additional police officers to help states and communities prevent the growth of crime during the economic downturn.