

**FACT CHECK: CROSSROADS GPS AD
JULY 8, 2011**

Karl Rove's political attack machine Crossroads GPS has invaded Montana to help Denny Rehberg with misleading attack ads against Jon Tester.

It's ironic to be attacked on these issues by Denny Rehberg, Karl Rove and their allies from Wall Street, Big Oil companies and multinational corporations. Rehberg and Rove turned a budget surplus into a deficit and racked up trillions of dollars in debt to help Wall Street moguls, Big Oil executives and multimillionaires like Rehberg.

This is the kind of hypocrisy we can expect from lifetime politician Denny Rehberg after more than a decade in Washington.

KARL ROVE AD	FACTS
	<p data-bbox="445 678 1999 743" style="text-align: center;">KARL ROVE FOUNDED CROSSROADS TO FUNNEL UNLIMITED AMOUNTS OF MONEY TO "ANTI-DEMOCRATIC BARRAGE OF ATTACK ADS"</p> <p data-bbox="420 789 2020 951">Karl Rove Helped Start the Crossroads Group After Supreme Court Ruled Corporations Could Spend Unlimited Amounts of Money Advocating Defeat of Political Candidates. As reported by Bloomberg News, "Republican strategist Karl Rove helped start the Crossroads groups last year after the Supreme Court ruled, in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, that corporations and labor unions can spend unlimited amounts of money advocating the election or defeat of political candidates." (Bloomberg News, 6/24/2011)</p> <p data-bbox="420 990 2020 1120">Crossroads Plans: "Anti-Democratic Barrage of Attacks Ads" Run Tens of Thousands of Times, 40 Million Negative Mail Pieces, 20 Million Phone Calls. Plans at American Crossroads include an anti-Democratic barrage of attack ads that will be run tens of thousands of times, a final get-out-the-vote push with some 40 million negative mail pieces, and 20 million automated phone calls, officials there say. [New York Times, 9/25/10]</p> <p data-bbox="445 1166 1999 1198" style="text-align: center;">CROSSROADS GROUP FUNDED BY SECRET MONEY FROM WALL STREET MOGULS AND BIG OIL EXECUTIVES</p> <p data-bbox="420 1243 2020 1373">Crossroads GPS Organized Under Different Tax Code to Avoid Disclosing Donors. As reported by Bloomberg News, "That amount doesn't include the donations to American Crossroads' sister organization, Crossroads Grassroots Policy Strategies. Crossroads GPS, which is organized under a different tax code and doesn't disclose its donors, said yesterday it will spend \$20 million over the next two months on television ads criticizing Democrat Obama's economic policies." (Bloomberg News, 6/24/2011)</p> <p data-bbox="420 1409 1999 1438">NBC News: Crossroads GPS Money From "Circle of Extremely Wealthy Wall Street Hedge Fund and Private Equity Moguls."</p>

According to NBC News, “A substantial portion of Crossroads GPS’ money came from a small circle of extremely wealthy Wall Street hedge fund and private equity moguls, according to GOP fundraising sources who spoke with NBC News on condition of anonymity. These donors have been bitterly opposed to a proposal by congressional Democrats — and endorsed by the Obama administration — to increase the tax rates on compensation that hedge funds pay their partners, the sources said.” [NBC News, [11/04/10](#)]

NBC News: Crossroads “Fueled By Tens of Millions From Wall Street.” According to NBC News, Crossroads as “fueled by tens of millions of dollars in contributions from Wall Street hedge fund moguls and other wealthy donors.” [NBC News, [11/04/10](#)]

Big Oil and Gas Corporate Executives Donated Millions to American Crossroads. As reported by Politico, “A Texas natural gas magnate last month gave \$1 million to American Crossroads, a new 527 group conceived by Karl Rove and Ed Gillespie to boost Republicans headed into the 2010 midterm elections. The contribution, from Trevor Rees-Jones, president of Chief Oil and Gas, a privately held energy company in Dallas, was the only significant contribution made in April to the new group, according to a report it filed Thursday with the Internal Revenue Service. [Politico, [5/20/10](#); Salon, [9/20/10](#)]

JON TESTER: I am of the belief that you take care of your own self and you don’t pass your debts onto your kids.

VOICE OVER: Oh really, Senator? You voted for skyrocketing debt...

Screen Text: Oh really?

Screen Text: U.S. Debt Up \$5.6 trillion since 2007

**FACT:
REHBERG THE ONLY CANDIDATE WHO SPENT FEDERAL BUDGET SURPLUS INTO FEDERAL DEFICITS**

Rehberg and GOP Congress Inherited \$128 Billion Surplus, Posted a Budget Deficit Every Year and Spent Heavily. As reported by CNN, “President Bush inherited a budget surplus of \$128 billion when he took office in 2001 but has since posted a budget deficit every year. The Bush administration has spent heavily on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and faces a large budget shortfall in tax revenue in part because of Bush's tax cuts and a souring economy.” [CNN, 7/28/08]

REHBERG’S DECADE LONG SPENDING SPREE INCLUDED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN EARMARKS, DEFICIT-FUNDED WARS, TAX BREAKS FOR MUTLIMILLIONAIRES LIKE HIMSELF

National Journal Named Rehberg Tea Partier With Name on Most Earmarks. As reported by National Journal, “Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-Mont.) takes the prize as the Tea Partier with his name on the most earmarks. Rehberg's office requested funding for 88 projects, either solely or by co-signing earmarks requests with Sens. Max Baucus (D) and Jon Tester (D), at a cost of \$100,514,200. On his own, Rehberg requested 20 earmarks valued at more than \$9.6 million.” [National Journal Hotline, [12/2/10](#)]

Rehberg Signed On to At Least \$100 Million in Earmarks in 2010. As reported by The Hill, “As for Rehberg, his name was attached to some \$100 million in earmarks for FY 2010, according to the website WashingtonWatch.com, which tracks earmark requests. It's a figure Rehberg says is wildly inflated thanks to requests from Montana's two Democratic senators. ‘Actually, I didn't [request much] in relation to everyone else,’ Rehberg said. ‘I'm getting credit for what Sen. Baucus and Sen. Tester got in the Senate.’” [The Hill, [12/19/10](#)]

2010: Citizens Against Government Waste Voted Rehberg The “Biggest Pig In Congress” For Requesting More Earmarks Than

Any Other House Member. In January 2011, the Independent Record reported, “Rehberg championed large amounts of federal earmarks -- last year Rehberg was voted the ‘biggest pig in Congress’ by the Citizens Against Government Waste for requesting more earmarks than any other House member -- until last year when the House Republicans as a group rejected the practice.” [Independent Record, 1/09/11]

Helena Independent Record Cited Rehberg Hypocrisy on Earmarks, Support for Earmark Ban “Year After Requesting Most Earmarks in Congress.” The Helena Independent Record wrote: “In the same interview, Rehberg offered up few ideas of any substance for cutting the federal budget with an eye toward balancing it, as he’d like to require. A year after requesting the most earmarks in Congress, Rehberg would now vote to ban them, even though they make up a fraction of 1 percent of the budget, and even though it’s unlikely that banning the practice would actually reduce expenditures or do anything to improve government transparency.” [Helena Independent Record, Editorial, 1/16/11]

REHBERG SUPPORTED WARS, TAX CUTS FOR MILLIONAIRES FUNDED BY DEFICIT SPENDING

CBPP: Economic Downturn and Bush Policies Continue to Drive Large Projected Deficits; Economic Recovery Measures, Financial Rescues Have Only Temporary Impact. (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [5/10/2011](#))

CBPP: Bush Tax Cuts and Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan Account for Almost Half the Debt. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, “The events and policies that pushed deficits to these high levels in the near term were, for the most part, not of President Obama’s making. If not for the Bush tax cuts, the deficit-financed wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the effects of the worst recession since the Great Depression (including the cost of policymakers’ actions to combat it), we would not be facing these huge deficits in the near term. By themselves, in fact, the Bush tax cuts and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan will account for *almost half* of the \$20 trillion in debt that, under current policies, the nation will owe by 2019. The stimulus law and financial rescues will account for less than 10 percent of the debt at that time.” (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [5/10/2011](#))

***Washington Post*: Without Financial Crisis and Major Bush-Era Initiatives, Debt Levels Would Be in Pretty Good Shape.** As reported by the *Washington Post*, “In other words, cut the financial crisis and the major initiatives from the Bush-era out of the picture, and we’d be in pretty good shape. In fact, we’d be in *great* shape. ‘Without the economic downturn and the fiscal policies of the previous Administration, the budget would be roughly in balance over the next decade. That would have put the nation on a much sounder footing to address the demographic challenges and the cost pressures in health care that darken the long-run fiscal outlook.’” (*Washington Post*, [5/23/2010](#))

HELENA INDEPENDENT RECORD: REHBERG ALL TALK BUT NO SUBSTANCE ON DEBT ISSUES

Helena Independent Record: “Rehberg Offered Up Few Ideas of Any Substance for Cutting Federal Budget.” The Helena Independent Record wrote: “In the same interview, Rehberg offered up few ideas of any substance for cutting the federal budget with an eye toward balancing it, as he’d like to require. A year after requesting the most earmarks in Congress, Rehberg would now vote to ban them, even though they make up a fraction of 1 percent of the budget, and even though it’s unlikely that banning the practice would

actually reduce expenditures or do anything to improve government transparency.” [[Helena Independent Record](#), Editorial, 1/16/11]

Helena Independent Record: Rehberg on Deficit “Rhetoric Has Been Significant While Substance Has Been Insubstantial.” The [Helena Independent Record](#) editorial board wrote: “To be fair, few congressmen see bills into law before they take leadership positions, and Rehberg only took the helm a week ago. Now that he has this leadership position, Montana is watching. In the press release trumpeting his new chairmanship, Rehberg said he’d use the seat to “fight for reduced spending and improved oversight.” Hard to disagree with either of those goals, but so far the rhetoric has been significant while the substance has been insubstantial.” [[Helena Independent Record](#), Editorial, 1/16/11]

FACT:

JON TESTER OPPOSED BAILOUTS AND WASTEFUL SPENDING, CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED PAY AS YOU GO SPENDING RULES

JON TESTER THE ONLY SENATE DEMOCRAT TO OPPOSE \$700 BILLION WALL STREET BAILOUT AND AUTO INDUSTRY BAILOUT

Tester Voted AGAINST \$700 Billion Taxpayer-Funded Bailout for Wall Street Banks. [CQ; Vote 212, [10/1/08](#); Vote 213, [10/1/08](#)]

Tester OPPOSED Increasing Debt Limit to Bail Out Wall Street Banks. [CQ; Vote 212, [10/1/08](#); Vote 213, [10/1/08](#)]

Tester Voted Against Taxpayer Funded Bailout for the Auto Industry. In December 2008, Tester voted against the motion to invoke cloture (thus limiting debate) on the motion to proceed to the bill on the alternative minimum tax, which would serve as the vehicle for an emergency loan package for domestic automakers. The **motion was rejected** by a vote of 52-35. (HR 7005, Senate Roll Call [Vote #215](#), 12/11/2008)

JON TESTER COSPONSORED BILL TO STOP OBAMA ADMINISTRATION FROM SPENDING UNUSED BAILOUT FUNDS, REQUIRED THAT FUNDS BE USED TO REDUCE THE DEFICIT

PRESS RELEASE – Tester: Use Wall Street Bailout Money to Pay Down National Debt. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [1/24/2010](#))

Tester Supported “Pay It Back” Amendment to Redirect Unused Bailout and Stimulus Funds Toward Paying Down National Debt. Tester supported the Pay It Back Act, bipartisan legislation that redirected unused TARP and stimulus funds to pay down the national debt. The amendment also required inspectors general and agency secretaries to identify any unobligated ARRA funds and direct these funds to pay down the national deficit. Tester’s bill also required all stimulus funds not used by December 2012 to be used to pay down the deficit. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [5/11/2010](#))

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Votes to End Wall Street Bailout: Senator Among Bipartisan Group of Senators Pushing to End TARP, Lower Debt. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [1/21/2010](#))

JON TESTER JOINED GROUP OF “SENATE DEFICIT HAWKS” TO HOLD OBAMA TO TOUGHER PAYGO RULES

HEADLINE – Senate Deficit Hawks Press Tough Pay-as-You-Go Bill. ([Congressional Quarterly Today](#), 8/7/09)

Tester Cosponsored Legislation to Hold Obama to Tougher PAYGO Rules. As reported by *CQ Today*, “Senate supporters of “pay-as-you-go” budget legislation have introduced a bill that makes no exceptions for four costly policies that President Obama wants to exempt... Obama does not want a PAYGO law to apply to extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, permanently preventing the alternative minimum tax from hitting more taxpayers, extending the current estate tax law or preventing cuts in Medicare payments to physicians. The administration argues that these policies are in place now and extending them would not be new policy, so their cost should not have to be offset. But this argument has drawn criticism from budget watchdog groups that note the cost of exempting such policies would be high — about \$3 trillion according to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) — and that under current congressional budget rules they would have to be offset. The Senate bill (S 1600), introduced Thursday, would not allow these four policies to be exempted.” (*Congressional Quarterly Today*, 8/7/09)

Tester Bill “Would Write Much Stronger Rules Into Law” and “Reinstate PAYGO Rules Similar to Those in Effect During 1990s That Helped Lead to Budget Surpluses.” According to a press release issued by the Office of Senator Claire McCaskill, “The legislation would reinstate PAYGO rules similar to those in effect during the 1990s that helped lead to budget surpluses... The PAYGO bill Senators McCaskill and Bennet introduced would write much stronger rules into law. They would strengthen enforcement through the threat of mandatory cuts, and make PayGo harder to waive by requiring that deficits be tallied cumulatively, as well as on a bill by bill basis. The PAYGO rules under the legislation are similar to the PAYGO rules that were the law during the 1990s, but those were allowed to expire in 2002. Other original co-sponsors of the legislation include Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Jon Tester (D-MT), Mark Udall (D-CO), Mark Warner (D-VA), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), and Mark Begich (D-AK).” (Office of Senator Claire McCaskill, Press Release, [8/6/2009](#))

JON TESTER THE ONLY SENATE DEMOCRAT TO OPPOSE U.S. BAILOUT FOR GREECE AND EUROPEAN ECONOMY

Tester Voted to Prohibit American Taxpayer-Funded Loan to Greece and Europe Through International Monetary Fund, Rescind Up to \$108 Billion for International Monetary Fund. In June 2011, Tester voted for the DeMint, R-S.C., amendment no. 501 that would eliminate authority provided by current law to grant certain loans to the International Monetary Fund and rescind up to \$108 billion previously appropriated for this purpose. The amendment was rejected by a vote of 44-55. (S.Amdt.501, Senate Roll Call [Vote #99](#), 6/29/2011)

INDEPENDENT FACTCHECKERS: GOP CLAIM THAT RECOVERY ACT FAILED IS *FALSE*

VOICE OVER: ... the failed stimulus...

Screen Text: Tester voted for: Stimulus Bill \$830 billion

Politifact Dismissed as FALSE GOP Claim That Recovery Act “Failed to Get People Back to Work.” In May 2011, the Pulitzer Prize winning fact-check website Politifact rated Rep. Eric Cantor’s claim that the stimulus “failed to get people back to work” as “false.” (*Politifact*, [5/26/2011](#))

FactCheck.org: “It’s Just False to Say Stimulus Created ‘No Jobs’ or ‘Has Done Nothing to Reduce Unemployment.’” As reported by FactCheck.org, “But it’s just false to say that the stimulus created ‘no jobs’ or ‘failed to save and create jobs’ or ‘has done nothing to reduce unemployment’ – or similar claims that the stimulus did not produce *any* jobs. As we have written before, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office released a report in August that said the stimulus bill has ‘[I]owered the unemployment rate by between 0.7 percentage points and 1.8 percentage points’ and ‘[i]ncreased the number of people employed by between 1.4 million and 3.3 million.’ Simply put, more people would be unemployed if not for the stimulus bill. The exact number of jobs created and saved is difficult to estimate, but nonpartisan economists say there’s no doubt that the number is positive.” (FactCheck.org, [9/27/2010](#))

SPENDING HYPOCRITE: REHBERG SECRETLY ASKED OBAMA FOR MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN STIMULUS AID

HEADLINE – Rehberg Asked Administration to Help Stimulus Projects. (Great Falls Tribune, 10/19/2010)

Rehberg Wrote Obama Administration At Least Three Letters Requesting Millions in Stimulus Aid for Montana Projects. As reported by the Great Falls Tribune, “Over the next few months, the Montana Republican wrote three letters to federal agencies, asking them to approve millions in stimulus aid for projects in his home state — a rural electric cooperative in Kallispell and Internet providers in Fairfield and Huntley. A new report from the Center for Public Integrity, the Washington watchdog group that unearthed the letters, says Rehberg and other members of Congress are hypocrites for voting against the stimulus and later seeking money from the program... The Center for Public Integrity posted three form letters with Rehberg’s signature asking the administration to consider the merits of the Montana projects. The letters were sent on behalf of: ã Flathead Electric Cooperative in Kalispell asking the Department of Energy to consider approving the cooperative’s application for money to drill exploratory geothermal wells.” (Great Falls Tribune, 10/19/2010)

HEADLINE – Stimulating Hypocrisy: Scores of Recovery Act Opponents Sought Money Out of Public View. (Center for Public Integrity, [10/19/2010](#))

Republicans Who Strongly Touted Opposition to Recovery Act Quietly Made Requests for Stimulus Money. As reported by CBS News, “Dozens of Republicans who strongly touted their opposition to the 2009 Recovery Act have nonetheless quietly made requests for stimulus money, according to a [report](#) by the Center for Public Integrity. The report finds that leading members of Congress -- including Rep. Pete Sessions, Indiana Rep. Mike Pence, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, former presidential candidates John McCain and Ron Paul, and Tea Party favorites Michele Bachmann and Sen. Scott Brown - have discreetly requested stimulus funds despite their public opposition to the initiative. (CBS News, [10/18/2010](#))

SPENDING HYPOCRITE: REHBERG ATTENDED RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR STIMULUS PROJECT

HEADLINE – Rehberg Cuts Ribbon on Federal Stimulus Project. (KPAX, [9/23/2010](#))

Rehberg Attended Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Route 323 Dedication in Alzada, Road Project Completed With Recovery Act Funds. As reported by the *Billings Gazette*, “Democratic Sens. Max Baucus and Jon Tester both voted for the stimulus package, and Rehberg voted against it. That’s one reason some Democrats accused him of hypocrisy when he went down to Ekalaka with Burns a couple of weeks ago for a ribbon-cutting on the not-quite-completed project, held then to accommodate Rehberg’s schedule. Democrats said Rehberg voted against the stimulus and then touted a project that stimulus funds finally completed. Rehberg said he has nothing to apologize for. He said too much of the trillion-dollar stimulus package went toward government services and projects that did nothing to create jobs. Shovel-ready projects like Highway 323 were exactly what the economy needed, he said, and once the stimulus money was approved, “there was no purpose in pouting. I would rather that the money goes to Montana.” (*Billings Gazette*, [10/23/2010](#))

JON TESTER WORKED WITH BIPARTISAN SENATE GROUP TO REDUCE STIMULUS COSTS BY BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Tester Worked with Bipartisan Group of Senators to Make Cuts to Stimulus Bill, Aimed to Reduce Stimulus Costs By \$100 Billion. As reported by *CongressNow*, “Still, a bipartisan group of Senators working to trim the bill's price tag said they hoped to finish their amendment tonight or tomorrow, and many Senators indicated they would have a difficult time voting for the bill without cuts. They said they planned to continue vetting the amendment during their hours on the floor voting. Sen. Ben Nelson (D-Neb.), one of the leaders of the group of 18 Senators, declined to say how much money the amendment might seek to cut, but he acknowledged, "It is sizable and we've continued to find areas of adjustments." Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.) said the figure was in the "ballpark" of \$100 billion. However, the group has also begun to discuss adding more money for infrastructure projects that would create construction jobs around the country.” (*CongressNow*, 2/5/2009)

JON TESTER VOTED TO BAN STIMULUS MONEY FOR WASTEFUL PROJECTS

Tester Voted to Ban Stimulus Money Being Spent On Wasteful Projects. In February 2009, Tester voted for an amendment to ensure that taxpayer money was not lost on wasteful and non-stimulative projects. The *Washington Times* reported, “The Senate had passed an amendment from Sen. Tom Coburn, Oklahoma Republican, that had banned money going to casinos, zoos, golf courses, swimming pools, parks, museums, theaters or highway beautification projects. The final bill retained the ban on gambling establishments, zoos and pools, but removed the prohibition against funding museums, stadiums, arts centers, theaters, parks or highway beautification projects.” (S. Amdt. 309, Senate Roll Call [Vote # 51](#), 2/6/2009; *Washington Times*, 2/14/2009)

VOICE OVER: ... and Obamacare.

**FACT:
REHBERG’S PLAN TO DEFUND HEALTH CARE REFORM WOULD INCREASE THE DEFICIT**

CBO: Rehberg’s Amendment To Defund Health Care Reform Would Add \$5.7 Billion To Deficit Over 10 Years. In March 2011, [The Hill](#) reported that Congressional Budget Office estimated that Rehberg’s amendment withholding funds for the implementation of health care reform would add \$5.7 billion to the deficit over 10 years. “The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) said Thursday that

<p><i>Screen Text:</i> <i>Healthcare Takeover:</i> <i>\$1 trillion</i></p>	<p>choking off implementation funds would cut the deficit by \$1.6 billion for the rest of the year, but it would increase spending by \$3.1 billion in 2012 and by smaller amounts each year through 2021. The CBO also said the measure would hurt agencies’ abilities to implement some of the health care reform provisions, including establishing of Medicare payment rates for 2012. [The Hill, 3/10/11]</p> <p>Rehberg “Ignored The Long-Term Deficit Impact” Of His Amendment To Defund The Health Care Reform Law. In March 2011, The Hill reported that in response to the Congressional Budget Office’s findings that his amendment to defund the health care reform law would add \$5.7 billion to the deficit over 10 years, Rehberg “touted the immediate savings and ignored the long-term deficit impact.” [The Hill, 3/10/11]</p> <p>Rehberg Proposal to Defund Health Care Law Would Add Billions to Deficit, Prevent Seniors from Using Medicare Advantage. As reported by the <i>Great Falls Tribune</i>, “Denny Rehberg has been told that his proposal to defund the sweeping health care law President Barack Obama signed last year would add billions of dollars to the federal deficit and prevent senior citizens from using the Medicare Advantage program. He also was told that it has no chance of getting past the Democrats who run the Senate.” (<i>Great Falls Tribune</i>, 3/21/2011)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HEALTH CARE REFORM CUT DEFICIT BY \$143 BILLION, LOWERS HEALTH CARE COSTS AND REDUCES SPENDING</p> <p>CBO: Final Health Care Legislation Will Reduce the Deficit by \$143 Billion Over Next Decade, \$1.3 Trillion In Spending Over Next Two Decades. According to the CBO and the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT), “enacting both pieces of legislation—H.R. 3590 and the reconciliation proposal—would produce a net reduction in federal deficits of \$143 billion over the 2010–2019 period as result of changes in direct spending and revenues. That figure comprises \$124 billion in net reductions deriving from the health care and revenue provisions and \$19 billion in net reductions deriving from the education provisions.” Reported the Los Angeles Times, “But because the spending is offset with a series of new taxes and cuts in federal Medicare expenses over the next decade, the CBO concluded that the legislation will actually reduce the deficit. The budget analysts estimated that deficit reduction could be even higher over the next two decades, hitting as much as \$1.3 trillion by 2029.” [CBO, 3/21/10; Los Angeles Times, 3/19/10]</p>
<p>VOICE OVER: You voted for reckless spending.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FACT: JON TESTER HAS A RECORD OF OPPOSING BAILOUTS AND CUTTING WASTEFUL SPENDING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JON TESTER HAS SUPPORTED BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN SPENDING <u>CUTS</u></p> <p>Tester Voted to Cut \$120 Billion in Federal Spending. In January 2010, Tester voted in favor of the Coburn Amendment to rescind \$120 billion in federal spending. Reported the <i>Tulsa World</i>, “The Senate agreed to an amendment, sponsored by Sen. Tom Coburn R-Okla., to a resolution (H.J. Res. 45) that would rescind \$120 billion in federal spending by consolidating certain duplicate government programs, cutting excess spending and returning unspent billions back to taxpayers. Proponents said the amendment would start ‘to make some of the hard choices about where we have excess, where we have inefficiency, where we have duplication, and eliminate it.’”</p>

(Senate Roll Call Vote # 6, 1/26/10; *Tulsa World*, 1/31/10)

Tester Voted to Require Budget Office to Cut \$5 Billion Through Spending Recissions, Eliminate and Consolidate Duplicative Government Programs. In April 2011, Tester voted for the Coburn, R-Okla., amendment no. 273 that would direct the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to coordinate, within 150 days, with department and agency officials to eliminate and consolidate duplicative government programs identified in a March 2011 Government Accountability Office Report. OMB would be required to find at least \$5 billion in spending recissions. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 64-36. Tester was one of 18 Democrats to support the amendment. (S 493, Senate Roll Call [Vote #57](#), 4/6/2011)

Tester Voted to Cut Old Transportation Earmarks. In March 2010, Tester voted for an amendment that would cut unused transportation earmarks and establish a general reporting requirement for any unused earmarks. *The Washington Times* reported, “Taking its first baby steps to rein in pork-barrel spending, the Senate voted overwhelmingly Tuesday to rescind old transportation earmarks, though lawmakers also resoundingly defeated a more ambitious effort to ban all earmarks through 2011. Voting 87-11, senators approved giving back money for transportation earmarks that have been on the books for 10 years and for which less than 10 percent of the obligated money has been spent.” (Senate Roll Call Vote # 51, 3/16/10; *The Washington Times*, 3/17/10)

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Votes to Cut \$4 Billion in Government Spending. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [3/2/2011](#))

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Proposes Saving Millions By Posting, Not Printing, Legislation: Senator Wants to End Expensive Practice of Printing Every Bill Introduced in Congress. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [2/9/2011](#))

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Bill Rescinds Unused, Unwanted 2003 Earmark, Uses Money to Pay Down Debt. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [3/3/2011](#))

Tester Urged Defense Department to Reduce Number of Overseas Military Bases and Installations, Save Taxpayer Money. According to a press release issued by the Office of Senator Jon Tester, “Pointing to the potential for saving billions of dollars, Senator Jon Tester is urging the Secretary of Defense to consider reducing the number of U.S. military bases and installations overseas—specifically Cold War-era bases in Europe... In a letter to Defense Secretary Robert Gates, Tester is urging scrutiny of ‘our military’s overseas footprint, with special consideration to our Air Force facilities in Europe.’ ‘The days of a strong basing presence in a Cold War-era Europe is no longer relevant with today’s expeditionary force construct,’ Tester wrote. ‘Given the U.S. military’s advanced technology and the capability of our forces to deploy throughout the world from stateside bases, I believe there may be added value in further reducing our foreign basing footprint.’ ‘If we can save taxpayers money, we should do it now, not later,’ Tester added.” (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [5/19/2011](#))

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Plan Ends \$4 Billion in Taxpayer Subsidies to Big Oil Executives. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [5/10/2011](#))

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Votes to Save Taxpayers \$3 Billion: Bipartisan Amendment Curbs Corn Ethanol Subsidies. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [6/14/2011](#))

Tester Voted to Prohibit Unemployment Benefits for Millionaires. In April 2011, Tester voted for the Coburn, R-Okla., amendment no. 281 that would prohibit the payment of unemployment insurance benefits to individuals with adjusted gross incomes of \$1 million or more. Individuals applying for benefits would be required to certify that they have an adjusted gross income of less than that amount. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 100-0. (S 493, Senate Roll Call [Vote #55](#), 4/6/2011)

Tester Voted to Rescind Assortment of Federal Funds, Prohibit Payment of Unemployment Benefits to Millionaires. In December 2010, Tester voted for the Coburn, R-Okla., motion to suspend Rule 22 to permit the consideration of a Coburn amendment no. 4765 that would partially offset the cost of the measure by rescinding an assortment of federal funds. It also would prohibit payment of unemployment insurance benefits to millionaires. The motion was rejected by a vote of 47-52. Tester was one of five Democrats to support the motion. (HR 4853, Senate Roll Call [Vote #273](#), 12/15/2010)

Tester Voted to Require That Unemployment Benefits Be Paid For Through Government Spending Reductions and Sale of Unused Federal Property. In July 2010, Tester voted for the Coburn, R-Okla., motion to suspend Rule 22 to permit the consideration of a Coburn motion to commit the bill to the Finance Committee with instructions that it be reported back with language that would offset the cost of the unemployment insurance provisions through government spending reductions and revenue from the sale of surplus federal property. The motion was rejected by a vote of 49-49. Tester was one of 9 Democrats to support the motion. (HR 4213, Senate Roll Call [Vote #211](#), 7/21/2010)

Tester Amendment Cut Funding for Animal ID Program By Half, Saved \$7.3 Million. According to a press release issued by the Office of Senator Jon Tester, “The U.S. Senate this afternoon approved a bipartisan measure by Senators Jon Tester and Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., to strip funding for the controversial Animal Identification Program. Tester, like many other Montanans in production agriculture, is a longtime opponent of Animal ID. As a member of the influential Senate Appropriations Committee, Tester included in the *Agriculture Appropriations Act* an amendment that cuts this year’s funding for Animal ID Program in half, from \$14.6 million to \$7.3 million. After approving Tester’s and Enzi’s amendment Monday night, the Senate overwhelmingly passed the bill by a vote of 80-17.” (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [8/4/2009](#))

PRESS RELEASE – Senate Considering Tester’s Plan to Save Taxpayers \$6 Billion by Ending Temporary Benefit. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, 6/17/10)

Tester Amendment Reduced Effect of Unemployment Benefits on Deficit By \$6 Billion. As reported by [National Journal](#), “An amendment from Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., to strike \$25 a week in extra unemployment compensation from a nearly \$140 billion package of benefit payments and tax breaks could shore up support among wavering senators concerned about its deficit impact. Senate Majority Leader Reid sought to cut off debate by filing cloture on the measure Monday, which as drafted would add about \$79 billion to the deficit over a decade. Tester’s amendment would only trim about \$6 billion from that figure. But it could be seen as a gesture toward the position espoused by Blue Dogs and Senate Democrats like Ben Nelson of Nebraska and Evan Bayh of Indiana, who are holding out

for cost cuts.” ([National Journal](#), Congress Daily, 6/15/10)

JON TESTER BACKED EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE DUPLICATIVE AND INEFFICIENT GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

PRESS RELEASE – Tester Backs Bill to Cut Government Waste, Save Taxpayer Money. (Office of Senator Jon Tester, Press Release, [12/7/2010](#))

Tester Supported Creation of Bipartisan Commission to Review Federal Agencies, Eliminate Duplicative and Ineffective Programs. In January 2010, Tester voted to create a bipartisan commission that would review all federal programs and agencies and make recommendations to eliminate programs that were duplicative or ineffective. According to the US Fed News, “US Senator Sam Brownback commented on the Senate's failure to adopt as an amendment to the Debt Limit Increase bill his Commission on Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies legislation... Brownback's amendment, voted on today, needed 60 votes to be adopted to the pending legislation; it received 51 votes from Republicans, Democrats, and Independents. CARFA would create a bipartisan commission to review all federal programs and agencies, make recommendations to realign duplicative programs and eliminate programs that have outlived their usefulness or are ineffective. The recommendations would then be reported to Congress. A vote would be held to either accept or reject the recommendations as a whole. The commissioners would review roughly a quarter of all federal programs each year over a four-year period. At the end of each year, each set of recommendations would receive an up-or-down vote. After its fourth and final submission, the commission would terminate.” (Senate Roll Call Vote #10, 1/28/10; US Fed News, 1/29/2010).

VOICE OVER: You voted for reckless spending. And how'd you pay for it? Billions in new taxes and trillions in crushing debt.

Screen Text: Tester voted for reckless spending

Screen Text: Tester voted to raise the debt limit five times.

FACT:

REHBERG REPEATEDLY VOTED TO RAISE THE DEBT LIMIT, REHBERG OPPOSED FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY THROUGH PAYGO RULES

2006: Rehberg Voted for Budget That Increased Debt Limit to \$9.6 Trillion. In 2006, Rehberg voted in favor of the \$2.8 trillion budget for FY 2007 that was fiscally reckless and harmful for America's working families. The budget added hundred of billions to the already record budget deficit and included a provision to increase the debt limit by \$653 billion to \$9.6 trillion. It cut key programs like education, health and veterans programs. It did nothing to help lower gas prices and did not provide a permanent fix for the Alternative Minimum Tax, which hurt millions of middle-class families every year. The budget included a projected deficit for 2006 of \$372 billion and a deficit for 2007 of \$348 billion. By 2011, the deficit could total \$1.1 trillion. The budget resolution contained no plans to balance the budget, and, in fact, the Republican policies make the deficit worse by \$410 billion over five years relative to current budget policies. [House Budget Committee, Minority Staff Analysis of the FY 07 Budget] The bill passed 218-210. [HCR376, [Vote #158](#), 5/18/06]

2006: Rehberg Voted Against Avoiding Debt Limit Hike. In March 2006, Rehberg voted against instructing conferees on the FY06 tax reconciliation bill to insist that the final bill neither increases the federal deficit nor raises the debt limit. [HR 4297, [Vote 67](#), 3/16/06; CQ, 3/16/06]

VOICE OVER: Sorry
Senator Tester, no
more reckless
spending, no more
taxes and no more
blank checks.

Screen Text: Call Jon
Tester: [1-888-583-0969](tel:1-888-583-0969)

Tell him **NO MORE**
Reckless Spending/New
Taxes/Blank Checks

2005: Rehberg Voted To Deem & Pass Debt Limit Increase Of \$781 Billion. According to the Congressional Research Service, “The adoption of the conference report on the FY2006 budget resolution in late April 2005 also triggered the Gephardt rule (House Rule XXVII), producing a House Joint Resolution (H.J.Res. 47) that also would raise the debt limit by \$781 billion to \$8,965 billion. Under the rule, the resolution was automatically deemed passed by the House and sent to the Senate.” [CRS, The Debt Limit: History and Recent Increases, [1/10](#); HCR95, Vote #149, 214-211, [4/28/05](#)]

2004: Rehberg Voted To Increase The National Debt Limit By \$700 Billion. In 2004, Rehberg voted for a procedural motion that included a roughly \$700 billion debt limit increase. The provision inserted into a popular Defense spending bill allowed supporters to sidestep a direct vote on boosting the legal limit on government borrowing, then at \$7.4 trillion. Congress approved a \$984 billion debt ceiling boost in May 2003, the largest ever, without a stand-alone vote, and a \$450 billion increase in June 2002. Before that, the cap was not increased since 1997. The measure passed 221-197. [HRS 683, [Vote 280](#), 6/22/04; [CQ Today](#), 6/23/04; AP, 6/22/04]

2004: Rehberg Voted for Budget That Increased Debt Limit By \$690 Billion. In 2004, Rehberg voted in favor of a Republican budget that proposed spending the entire \$1.0 trillion Social Security surplus from 2005 to 2009. [House Budget Committee Minority Caucus, 3/23/04] The resolution called for making the 2001 and 2003 tax bills permanent. The budget resolution passed 215-212. [HCR 393, [Vote #92](#), 3/20/04] Later in 2004, Rehberg voted in favor of another version of the Republican budget that spent \$174 billion of the Social Security Trust Fund in order to pay, in part, for \$55.2 billion in additional tax cuts. The measure also increased the public debt limit by \$690 billion. [[CQ House Action Reports](#), “The Budget Agreement,” 5/19/04; [USA Today](#), May 20, 2004] The measure passed 216-213. [SCR 95, [Vote #198](#), 5/19/04]

2004: Rehberg Voted To Increase The National Debt Limit By \$800 Billion. In 2004, Rehberg voted to raise the federal debt limit by \$800 billion to \$8.18 trillion. The [Washington Post](#) reported, “By passing such a huge increase in the debt limit, with no strings attached, Congress has effectively given the Bush administration a blank check to continue running large deficits, said Stephen S. Roach, chief economist at Morgan Stanley. ‘An open-ended license for this kind of fiscal irresponsibility is a recipe for disaster,’ he said.” The bill was adopted 208-204. [S 2986, [Vote 536](#), 11/18/04; [Washington Post](#), 11/19/04]

2003: Rehberg Voted To Deem & Pass \$984 Billion Increase In Debt Limit. According to the Congressional Research Service, “On April 11, 2003, in the House triggered the “Gephardt rule” (House Rule XXVII) that deems to have passed legislation (in this case, H.J.Res. 51) raising the debt limit to accommodate the spending and revenue levels approved in the adopted budget resolution.” [CRS, The Debt Limit: History and Recent Increases, [1/10](#); HCR95, Vote #141, 216-211, [4/11/03](#)]

2002: Rehberg Was Deciding Vote to Increase Debt Limit By \$450 Billion After Spending Government From Surplus Into Deficits. On June 27, 2002, Rehberg voted in favor of S 2578, legislation increasing the public debt limit by approximately \$450 billion. The House passed the legislation 215-214. It was the first time the U.S. Congress voted to increase the public debt limit after spending a budget surplus into deficits. [Congressional Research Service; S 2578, [Vote 279](#), 06/27/02]

Rehberg Opposed Fiscal Responsibility through “PAYGO.” In 2009, Rehberg voted against PAYGO legislation that was designed to ensure fiscal responsibility by reestablishing “Pay-as-you-Go” (PAYGO) policy as federal law. The measure passed 265-166. [CQ

Today Online News, 7/22/09; HR 2920, [Vote 612](#), 7/22/09]

Rehberg Opposed PayGo on Previous Votes. Rehberg has previously opposed PayGo rules.

- **2004:** Rehberg voted against a motion to insist that an increase in the debt ceiling be accompanied by stricter fiscal discipline when passing tax cuts. The motion failed 194-218. [S 2986, [Vote 535](#), 11/18/04]
- **2004:** Rehberg voted against similar measures to re-establish PayGo. The motion failed 196-218. [HR 4663, [Vote 317](#), 6/25/04]
- **2004:** Rehberg voted against similar measures to re-establish PayGo. It too was defeated, 179-233. [HR 4663, [Vote 314](#), 6/24/04]
- **2004:** Rehberg voted against a Pay-Go provision to require Congress to pay for new spending and tax cuts with a pay-as-you-go provision. The motion was defeated 208-215. [SCR 95, [Vote 145](#), 5/05/04]
- **2004:** Rehberg voted against a motion to require any tax cut or mandatory spending expansion to have either an offset or a 60-vote point of order in the Senate. The non-binding motion to instruct was rejected 209-209. [SCR 95, [Vote 97](#), 3/30/04]