



Office of U.S. Senator Mark Begich

Alaska :: Month Year

Official website :: <http://begich.senate.gov>

National Debt Crisis: Promoting Fiscal Responsibility and Long-Term Economic Growth

Addressing the Fiscal Crisis

- With the national debt over \$14 trillion, we must come together and work on bipartisan, common-sense ways to get our nation's fiscal house in order.
- The debt is the greatest single threat to our long-term economic strength.
- It's our responsibility to come together, put politics aside, and make the cuts necessary to create a strong economy for future generations.

Curbing Spending

- I support measures that simultaneously grow the economy and reduce spending.
- I have proposed and support measures to address spending, including: a five-year freeze on federal discretionary spending; ending the Troubled Asset Relief Program; putting earmark funds for abandoned projects toward the deficit.
- I helped repeal the burdensome 1099 requirement, a provision in health care reform requiring all businesses to complete complex forms for just \$600 in transactions. As a long-time Alaska small businessman, I understood from the start this requirement was bad for small business owners, and I am pleased the Senate finally repealed it.
- I am a cosponsor of the *Bipartisan Tax Fairness and Simplification Act*, which will cut the federal deficit by an average of \$61 billion a year while creating 2.3 million jobs. Closing some tax loopholes for corporations that send jobs overseas alone would save billions of dollars.

"In the past few months I have worked with colleagues from both sides of the aisle to find budget cuts and have promoted several initiatives to help curb spending. I will continue to talk to Alaskans, and listen to their ideas, about how we can make tough, but responsible cut that move us closer to long-term economic security.

Senator Begich.



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Protecting Our Economy

- As we curtail reckless spending, we must protect vital programs for Alaskans. I continue to support crucial Alaska funding for the Denali Commission and projects that create jobs, and promote health and safety across the state.
- I do not believe ceding authority over earmarks to the executive branch is an effective way to reduce the deficit.
- I also believe we must protect Social Security and Medicare, and fully provide for our military and veterans.
- I want Alaskans to tell me your ideas about how to cut the deficit – please send me your suggestions at <http://www.begich.senate.gov>.



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