
The Voice of Golden

Vol. 9, No. 4 >> Golden, Colorado << April 2009

INSIDE – Things to know

"We must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt."

--Thomas Jefferson, letter to Samuel Kercheval, 12 July 1816

CAPITOL REVIEW · By MARK HILLMAN · March 16, 2008

Mark's Must Reads

[Obama's poll numbers are falling to earth - Wall St Journal](#)
['Manchurian candidate' starts war on business - Bloomberg](#)
[Wikipedia scrubs Obama entry - World Net Daily](#)
[Democrats' deficit-hawk blues - Wall St Journal](#)

'Big boy britches' time for Obama

"The country looks to the President on occasions like this to be reassuring to the nation. Some Presidents do it well, some Presidents don't."

That's how ABC's Peter Jennings assessed President George W. Bush's performance on Sept. 11, 2001. The criticism was superficial, shortsighted and unfair, given that President Bush's finest moments came in rallying the country after 9/11 - not scapegoating the previous administration.

Bush didn't spend the next few months claiming that he "inherited" a national security mess - nor did he complain about the economy which faltered in two of the final three quarters under President Clinton before contracting again in Bush's first year.

Likewise, President Reagan didn't whine about the soaring unemployment and burgeoning inflation that awaited him after President Carter's tenure.

These men understood that they campaigned for the opportunity to serve as President and to lead by making difficult, sometimes unpopular decisions.

That's why President Obama's transformation from a candidate of hope and change to a president of gloom, blame and opportunism is so disappointing - even for those who didn't buy what he was selling as a candidate. His ability to truly inspire 53% of the voters seemed, at least, refreshing.

Now, the Obama team takes every opportunity to complain that they "inherited" a deficit, an "economic crisis," and "a big mess."

No hope, just bellyaching.

Despite his messianic aura, Obama didn't mysteriously appear on planet earth a few months ago, whereupon he was thrust into office. He spent four years in the U.S. Senate (between campaign appearances), including two years when his party was in the majority with power to block policies it deemed destructive.

If he and his Democrat allies accept no responsibility for the current mess, it's fair to ask:

- Did you see it coming but chose to do nothing, calculating that the ensuing catastrophe would be more beneficial to your political ambitions?
- Or were you just as complicit in or oblivious to the financial implosion as those who came before you?

Either Obama put his political agenda ahead of the country's economic wellbeing or he, like those before him, is severely over-matched. Now he has reverted to the form that made him The Most Liberal Member of the U.S. Senate - exploiting economic turmoil to advance an agenda that rapidly expands the size, scope and debt of the federal government.

Americans might have accepted the behemoth \$787 billion stimulus as a one-time response to severe economic distress but not as an opening bid on future spending. After all, Obama told us, "When the American people spoke last November, they were . . . looking for a change in the way Washington does business."

Instead, Americans got a Trojan horse that indefinitely expands entitlements and explodes deficits.

Obama promises to cut budget deficits in half. But compared to what? Bush's deficits, prior to 2009, maxed out at \$412 billion. Obama's benchmark is the \$1.3 trillion deficit for 2009 - the one he "inherited" - which is approaching \$2 trillion under his stewardship.

To Bush, 2009 was an aberration in response to a fiscal crisis; Obama sees it as an opportunity to grow government permanently. Even taking Obama's budget at face value, his smallest deficit will be \$533 billion in 2013.

Obama's budget includes his own \$750 billion banking bailout, a \$650 billion carbon tax, a \$410 billion omnibus appropriation for 2009 - loaded with 8,570 earmarks. Even Sen. Evan Bayh (D-Indiana) said this "only exacerbates the problem."

After vowing to "ban all earmarks" and to "go through the federal budget line-by-line" to cut wasteful spending, Obama is now falling into the same trap that snared President Bush.

No change here, except that Bush seems miserly.

Because I reject his principles, the best I hoped for from President Obama was honesty, responsibility, and a degree of humility. So far, he's 0-for-3. Worse still, the pathetic tactic of whining about problems you campaigned to solve is beneath the Office of the President.

Memo to President Obama: You may never be a President I can agree with, but put on your "big boy britches" and start acting like one I can respect.

Norman Matton Thomas (November 20, 1884 - December 19, 1968) was a leading American socialist, pacifist, and six time presidential candidate for the Socialist Party of America .

In a 1944 speech Mr. Thomas said, " The American people will never knowingly adopt socialism. But, under the name of 'liberalism' they will adopt every fragment of the socialist program, until one day America will be a socialist nation, without knowing how it happened." He went on to say, "I no longer need to run as a Presidential Candidate for the Socialist Party. The Democratic Party has adopted our platform."

For Immediate Release: February 5, 2009

Contact: Jim Sims, CEO, Western Business Roundtable, 303-332-8259

Western Business Leaders Release "Common Sense" Principles For Congressional Action on Climate

Denver, CO (Feb. 5, 2008)-- A broad coalition of business leaders Friday released a consensus set of "common sense" principles they say should govern Congressional action aimed at controlling greenhouse gas emissions.

"These principles reflect the thinking of leaders from many different industries as well as folks in agriculture, small business, veterans groups and consumer organizations," said Western Business Roundtable President and CEO Jim Sims. "Our members hold a wide variety of views on specific legislative approaches. But they all agree that whatever path Congress takes on climate action, it will be more effective and will earn greater public acceptance if it follows these common sense principles."

The Roundtable's consensus principles on climate legislation are these:

- Federal action on GHG reduction programs should be developed and implemented by the U.S. Congress on a bipartisan basis – not by federal agencies acting unilaterally to implement policy outside of the Congress.
- Federal action should aim to reduce emissions of CO2 while the economy continues to grow, new jobs are created and the standard of living for all Americans increases;
- Federal action should incorporate a fully transparent cost-benefit assessment yielding a net positive outcome and achieving wide consensus as part of any CO2 emission reduction program so that consumers can be made aware of the potential economic impacts of policies prior to their implementation;

- Federal action should encourage the rapid research, development, demonstration and deployment, through public-private partnerships, of a broad spectrum of supply-side and demand-side technologies and practices, including energy efficiency, renewable technologies, fossil energy technologies (with and without carbon capture and storage), carbon sequestration and nuclear energy;
- Federal action should allow the utility sector to continue to supply consumers with adequate supplies of clean, affordable and reliable energy and to recover all costs necessary to achieve any GHG reduction levels sought by public policies;
- Federal action should involve all sectors of the economy, all sources and sinks and all types of GHGs;
- Federal action should recognize that climate variability is a global phenomenon that requires comprehensive, long-term and worldwide responses;
- Federal action should recognize that the time frame for implementation of any GHG reduction requirements must be tied to technology availability, reliability and economic feasibility in order to avoid unacceptable impacts on consumers;
- Federal action should target revenues generated by a climate change program to the rapid development and deployment of technologies to capture and store GHGs;
- Federal action should allow greater access to public lands (both onshore and offshore) for the development of domestic energy resources -- such as renewables, oil and gas, oil shale and coal - - that can be used in power generation technologies that can help America reduce its GHG intensity; and
- Federal action should recognize and protect existing (past) investment decisions for generation resources such that the net costs of owning and operating existing resources are not increased as a result of any program; rather, any carbon emission reduction program must be limited in its impact to future investment decisions, tailored to the actual net future growth in demand for energy after application and full use of existing resources.

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Contact: Jim Sims, Western Business Roundtable, 303-216-9278

Powerful Women's Motto:

Live your life in such a way that
 when your feet hit the floor
 in the morning, Satan shudders & says...
 'Oh !#%#....she's awake!!!'

For Immediate Release: April 17, 2009

Contact: Jim Everson, Jefferson County Assessor at 303-271-8667

Jeffco Property Valuations Decline Slightly

Jim Everson, Jefferson County Assessor, released the results of the 2009 revaluation of all real property in Jefferson County. Notices of Valuation for 2009 will be sent to property owners on May 1, 2009. The values in the 2009 notice will reflect the value of property as of June 30, 2008 as required by State law. The last revaluation of the County was done in 2007.

"County-wide, the median value of an existing single family home decreased from \$257,970 in 2007 to \$249,970 in 2009. The median percentage value decrease for single family homes in the County was -3.8%. However, there was a lot of variability as between individual neighborhoods which ranged from a 11.6% median increase to -12.0% median decrease. Areas showing median decreases were Arvada (-6.0%), Wheat Ridge (-5.8%), Morrison (-3.7%), Lakewood (-2.2%), South Jeffco (-1.5%), and Golden (-0.8%). Areas showing increases were Conifer (0.1%) and Evergreen (0.4)." said Everson, "Neighborhoods with high foreclosure rates were hit the hardest. Of course, individual properties can and will vary from these averages. On the business side, we are seeing actual value increases of about 2% with the largest increases coming in the hotels, auto service and manufacturing and slight increases in offices and office condos. Retail, apartments and other multi-family values declines slightly."

"Because of the difference in assessment rates, 7.96% for residential and 29.00% for non-residential, and including new construction, the assessed value of real property increased by 2.5% over 2008."

If the average mill levy remains fairly constant at about 100 mills, residential property owners, on average, will pay about \$8.00 in taxes for every \$1,000 of the "Current Year Actual Value" shown on their Notice of Valuation. Non-residential will average \$29 per \$1,000. This will vary based on the specific mill levy for the tax district where the property is located. Total mill levies range from 75.422 mills to 184.424 mills. Thus, a home with a \$300,000 actual value could be subject to property taxes ranging from \$1,801 to \$4,404 depending on the tax district in which it is located. Data about specific properties will be available after May 1st on the Assessor web site at <http://assessor.jeffco.us>.

"If owners disagree with the values in the May 1 notice, they need to appeal with my Office on or before June 1," stated Everson, "As always, I will make myself available to speak to interested groups to discuss details of the assessment calendar, valuation process and the appeals procedure."

CAPITOL REVIEW · By MARK HILLMAN · Feb. 17, 2008

Mark's Must Reads

[TUESDAY RALLY AGAINST OBAMA'S \\$3 TRILLION 'STIMULUS' DEBT](#)
[We have tried spending and it doesn't work - Human Events](#)
[Unemployment and spending - American Spectator](#)

Big government is back - with a vengeance

The era of big government is back - with a vengeance.

President Obama returned to Denver to sign into law his American Reinvestment and Recovery Act - the biggest spending bill in history, conservatively priced at \$787 billion.

In reality, this "stimulus" encourages nothing but government dependency and the belief that you really can get something for nothing. It should be known as the American Dependency and Redistribution Act because that's what it stimulates most.

But Americans said they wanted change; now they've got it. Or do they?

President Bush's biggest failure was a lack of fiscal discipline - the inability to say "no" to big spenders, especially those in his own party. But if Bush was undisciplined, Obama, Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid are completely unhinged.

With a single piece of legislation, Democrats will spend more during Obama's first month than Bush spent on the entire Iraq war. They passed the 1,073-page bill before anyone could read it - just days after unanimously adopting a policy to require that the public have 48 hours to review legislation before it comes to a vote.

Democrats' commitment to transparency in Congress follows the same pattern as Obama's commitment to keeping lobbyists out of his cabinet - they're for it, except when they're against it.

Bush signed a feckless \$150 billion stimulus package last spring and the \$700 billion TARP bailout bill plan in September and was criticized for both, from the right and the left. How many Obama voters expected the new president to follow in that same furrow, using not a shovel but an excavator?

Democrats like to claim "economists agree" that a government stimulus plan is necessary. Yet economists also acknowledge that the economy would eventually recover even if Congress did nothing.

Since the choice is between a government-induced recovery and one that would ultimately sort itself out, we should expect that government action do no harm.

Unfortunately, this stimulus is a minefield of potential and inevitable harm - if not abject fiscal disaster.

Congressional Budget Office notes that any short-term stimulative effect will wane, followed by rising government debt that actually hinders economic growth.

Then there's the cost of exploding federal deficits.

The cost of the stimulus isn't merely the \$787 billion in authorized spending. It's closer to \$3.2 trillion because it expands or

resurrects many social welfare programs. Nearly three-quarters of a trillion dollars will be required just for interest payments on debt.

Had Bush uttered Obama's simplistic "stimulus is spending" rhetoric, he would have been pilloried by the press as a know-nothing. Obama acts as if all government spending is equally stimulative, so the lion's share of this boondoggle is little more than a resurrection of the welfare state.

Welfare reforms hammered out between President Clinton and a Republican Congress in 1996 are rolled back. New entitlements are promised. These expenditures are authorized only through 2011, but the underlying programs form the foundation for a cradle-to-grave nanny state. The entitlement lobby will fight, hammer and tong, any effort to end funding, accusing opponents of "hating children and seniors," just as they vilified Republicans during welfare reform.

As the Bush administration was largely defined by the war on terrorism, so Obama's will be defined by the biggest spending bill in history, a return to the welfare state, and exploding deficits - ultimately leading to soaring inflation and rising interest rates.

Six years ago, Bush's decision to invade Iraq enjoyed overwhelming support, but when the war effort stumbled, the public and many politicians turned on a dime and left him holding the bag. Now, public support for the stimulus appears to be a mile wide but an inch deep. Americans hope it will work but don't expect their own finances to improve.

If the economy is still struggling in a year or two with today's problems compounded by inflation and rising interest rates, President Obama will learn that he alone owns his decisions and that the Oval Office can be a very lonely place.

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THE FOUNDATION

"A good government implies two things; first, fidelity to the object of the government; secondly, a knowledge of the means, by which those objects can be best attained." --James Madison

INSIGHT

"I apprehend no danger to our country from a foreign foe ... Our destruction, should it come at all, will be from another quarter. -- From the inattention of the people to the concerns of their government, from their carelessness and negligence, I must confess that I do apprehend some danger. I fear that they may place too implicit a confidence in their public servants, and fail properly to scrutinize their conduct; that in this way they may be made the dupes of designing men, and become the instruments of their own undoing. Make them intelligent, and they will be vigilant; give them the means of detecting the wrong, and they will apply the remedy." --U.S. Senator Daniel Webster (1782-1852)

You may have been carefully watching for the Colorado Supreme Court Ruling on the Governor's/Legislature's freezing property tax mill levies in obvious violation of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. Taxes WERE RAISED without a vote of the people and the Supremes gave it a pass. Here's my response sent a few minutes ago to the Denver Post. In case you'd like to consider a letter to the editor, legislator or court, here's what I put together and sent to Columns@denverpost.com (for letters, openforum@denverpost.com):

Denver Post Editorial Page Thursday, March 19, 2009

I sincerely hope you publish this response, "the rest of the story". (approx 608 words)

Re: Tim Hoover's "Measure didn't violate TABOR," DP p B1, 3/17/09, http://www.denverpost.com/politics/ci_11928774 Vincent Carroll's "Voters blindsided by court, http://www.denverpost.com/opinion/ci_11927798 , and DP Editorial, "Property-tax ruling sensible," http://www.denverpost.com/opinion/ci_11927795

Fred Holden, 303-421-7619
6463 Owens Street, Arvada, CO 80004

Measure Did So Violate TABOR Property Tax Ruling Very Unconstitutional

By Fred Holden

Hooray for Denver Post Columnist Vincent Carroll ("Voters blindsided by court").

Boo for Denver Post Editorial Board ("Measure didn't violate TABOR," p 10B, 3/17/09)

Boo Hiss for six of seven Colorado Supreme Court Judges ruling a state vote was not constitutionally required on the property tax freeze enacted by the Colorado Legislature. It is wrong by any logic, mature judgment and evaluation of the facts--unconstitutional and must be reversed or overturned. Now.

Carroll had it right, "TABOR, which is also part of our constitution, specifically says voters must approve 'any new tax, tax rate increase, mill levy above that for the prior year ... **or a tax policy change directly causing a net tax revenue gain to any district**'" (emphasis added) This legislation did indeed raise taxes as acknowledged by the Post's editorial.

Over a period of some 16 years, voters were persuaded to "de-Bruce," that is in Carroll's words, "to forgo any surplus collected by their districts under the existing system, **which did not foresee frozen rates**" (emphasis added). Right on, Carroll. Head's up, Supremes.

The Post editorial actually proved the point, "Ritter's tax-rate freeze holds mill-age rates in 174 school districts in place even as property values rise. **Yes, that means the districts will collect more (tax) money ...**" (emphasis added) If it looks like a duck, walks like a duck and quacks like a duck, it's a tax increase, and TABOR does not allow same without a vote of the people.

There's more, Colorado people can go on the web and view the beginning defining sentences of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, Article X, Section 20. These are "bulleted" so that not only Colorado citizens, voters and taxpayers, but Colorado Supreme Court Judges may read, comprehend, reflect, regret and rescind.

Part of the General Provisions for the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, "this section takes effect December 31, 1992."

- "Its preferred interpretation shall reasonably restrain most the growth of government."
- "All provisions are self-executing and severable and supersede conflicting state constitutional, state statutory, charter, or other state or local provisions."
- "Other limits on district revenue, spending and debt may be weakened **only by future voter approval.**" (emphasis added).

Take into account two important caveats, when "Individual or class action enforcement suit may be filed and shall have the high est civil priority of resolution," and "Successful plaintiffs are allowed costs and reasonable attorney fees, but a district is not unless a suit against it be ruled frivolous," here's the clincher:

- "Revenue collected, kept, or spent illegally since four full fiscal years before a suit is filed shall be refunded with 10% annual simple interest from the initial conduct." That's already a bunch of bucks starting with the initial \$117 million unconstitutionally gained, so sanitized and spent, with the spending going on.

Wow. To prevent losing even more government money, swift judicial action is imperative.

Much has been said of Denver Broncos quarterback Jay Cutler's utterance of just two words: "Trade Me." A much higher stakes game has been played in misreading, misinterpreting and misapplying the Colorado Constitution to this ruling. When a court is so left-leaning, so obviously duplicitous of the pervading "bigger is better, more is best" government growth mindset, a new path is opened.

To show their perhaps renewed honor, integrity, fidelity to the Colorado Constitution and to the great responsibility and assignment bestowed on them by=2 0the people of Colorado, may each of these wayward six of seven reverse this ruling. Failing that, and blatantly thwarting their judicial responsibilities to the people of Colorado and its Constitutional provisions in Article X, Section 20, do and say these two words:

"I resign."

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Fred Holden is public policy specialist, speaker and author of *TOTAL Power of ONE in America: Discover What You Need to Know, Why and How to be a More Powerful Person and Citizen*. He has technical and MBA degrees from the University of Colorado, is listed in Heritage Foundation's *Annual Guide to Public Policy Experts* since 1987 and a senior fellow, budget and tax policy for 12 of the Independence Institute's 24 years. Holden authored the Institute's popular June, 2003 issue paper, "A Decade of TABOR: Ten Years After-- Analysis of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights." He and wife Dottie have lived in Arvada 37 years where they raised their three daughters and now have six grandchildren.

Take heed my friends.

'Those who hammer their guns into plows will plow for those who do not.'



~ **Thomas Jefferson**

FIREARMS REFRESHER COURSE



- 1. An armed man is a citizen. An unarmed man is a subject.**
- 2. A gun in the hand is better than a cop on the phone.**
- 3. Colt: The original point and click interface.**
- 4. Gun control is not about guns; it's about control.**
- 5. If guns are outlawed, can we use swords?**
- 6. If guns cause crime, then pencils cause misspelled words.**
- 7. Free men do not ask permission to bear arms.**
- 8. If you don't know your rights, you don't have any.**
- 9. Those who trade liberty for security have neither.**
- 10. The United States Constitution (c) 1791. All Rights Reserved.**
- 11. What part of 'shall not be infringed' do you not understand?**
- 12. The Second Amendment is in place in case the politicians ignore the**

others. ♦ ♦

13. ♦ 64,999,987 firearms owners killed no one yesterday. ♦ ♦ ♦

14. ♦ Guns only have two enemies; rust and politicians. ♦

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

15. ♦ Know guns, know peace, know safety. ♦ No guns, no peace, no safety. ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

16. ♦ You don't shoot to kill; you shoot to stay alive. ♦

♦ ♦

17. ♦ 911: ♦ Government sponsored Dial-a-Prayer. ♦

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

18. ♦ Assault is a behavior, not a device. ♦ ♦ ♦

19. ♦ Criminals love gun control; it makes their jobs safer. ♦

♦ ♦

20. ♦ If guns cause crime, then matches cause arson. ♦

♦ ♦

21. ♦ Only a government that is afraid of its citizens tries to control them. ♦ ♦ ♦

22. ♦ You have only the rights you are willing to fight for. ♦ ♦ ♦

23. ♦ Enforce the gun control laws we ALREADY have; don't make more. ♦ ♦ ♦

24. ♦ When you remove the people's right to bear arms, you create slaves. ♦

♦ ♦

25. ♦ The American Revolution would never have happened with gun control. ♦

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

♦ ♦

IF YOU AGREE, PASS THIS 'REFRESHER' ON TO TEN FREE CITIZENS. ♦ ♦ ♦

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♦ Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see. Mark Twain

A BILL FOR TRANSPARENCY IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS' USE OF TAXPAYER FUNDS FOR FACILITIES

Put the "public" back in public schools

Your constituents want you to support our right to public participation in school facility decisions.

I, Jeffrey B. Sacco, resident of Golden, Colorado, am urging you to add a bill during this session for public participation in, and jurisdictional coordination of, school facilities, for one reason: your constituents want efficient, effective, and responsive governance. "Local control" belongs to the local communities, and school boards are allowed, by statute, to act in isolation, with absolute power.

Your constituents across Colorado were faced with \$2.5 billion in school bond requests last year. We deserve well-planned, efficient community facilities, and the right to participate in the design making: *it's our money, they are our schools.*

Statewide, boards of education have absolute authority to purchase and construct as the board sees fit [CRS 22-32-110 (b)]. No public notice, vetting or communication is necessary. **Absolute power** has no place in Colorado law – school districts have abused their authority; transparency, public accountability and "due process" need to be law, not voluntary.

I already have bipartisan support from Representative Gwyn Green (who championed the rights of our neighborhood to be heard) and Senator Kevin Lundberg, as well as, others that believe in public accountability, transparency, and property rights.

The ground work has already been set forth: since 2001, the 21st Century School Fund and the Ford Foundation have supported a collaborative effort called Building Educational Success Together (BEST), bringing together a coalition of school facility and community based groups. Their recommendations can be found at http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/lcsstaff/2005/comsched/05SchoolFinanceRegFacilities.pdf which is part of a Colorado Legislative Council Staff memorandum from August 22, 2005.

I need a bill sponsor! I will be conducting a very public campaign this year and request that you contact me for further information and details, or to voice your support or offer bill sponsorship. *I will assume a no response indicates you oppose public participation.*

To support the status quo is to support the schools continuing to treat your constituents as mushrooms: kept in the dark and fed manure.

Best regards,
Jeffrey B. Sacco
saccojb@hotmail.com
303-913-9392

"The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our own money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the dispensation of the public moneys." --Thomas Jefferson

"This Says it All"

"You cannot legislate the poor into freedom by legislating the wealthy out of freedom. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that my dear friend, is about the end of any nation. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."

~~~~~ Dr. Adrian Rogers, 1931 - 2005 ~~~~~

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### **Subject: Stimulus Bill, explained**

**Shortly after class, an economics student approached his economics professor and said, "I don't understand this Stimulus Bill. Can you explain it to me?"**

**The professor replied, "I don't have any time to explain it at my office, but if you come over to my house on Saturday and help me with my weekend project, I'll be glad to explain it to you." The student agreed. At the agreed-upon time, the student showed up at the professor's house. The professor stated that the weekend project involved his backyard pool. They both went out back to the pool, and the professor handed the student a bucket. Demonstrating with his own bucket, the professor said, "First, go over to the deep end and fill your bucket with as much water as you can." The student did as he was instructed. The professor then continued, "Follow me over to the shallow end and then dump all the water from your bucket into it." The student was naturally confused, but did as he was told. The professor then explained they were going to do this many more times, and began walking back to the deep end of the pool.**

**The confused student asked, "Excuse me, but why are we doing this?" The professor matter-of-factly stated that he was trying to make the shallow end much deeper. The student didn't think the economics professor was serious, but figured that he would find out the real story soon enough.**

**However, after the 6th trip between the shallow end and the deep end, the student began to become worried that his economics professor had gone mad. The student finally replied, "All we're doing is wasting valuable time and effort on unproductive pursuits. Even worse, when this process is all over, everything will be at the same level it was before, so all you'll really have accomplished is the destruction of what could have been truly productive action!"**

**The professor put down his bucket and replied with a smile, "Congratulations. You now understand the Stimulus Bill."**

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