

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

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The views expressed herein are the views of the Editor, Vernon Fix

HEY, BIG SPENDER

"In the three years since (President) Bush took office, discretionary spending — money that is not tied to long-term entitlements, including defense, domestic security, education and transportation — has grown by 31.5 percent. Non-discretionary spending — mandatory programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid — has reached record highs.

"Overall, federal spending grew on average by 7.6 percent in each of the last two years, more than double the 3.4 percent average annual growth under the Clinton administration. Current government spending is comparable to the guns and butter growth of the 1960s with the Great Society welfare programs and the Vietnam War, said Brian Riedl, a federal budget analyst at the Heritage Foundation.

"...Massive spending and big deficits could alienate conservative voters from Bush, said Richard Lessner, executive director of the American Conservative Union. . . . Republican National Committee spokeswoman Christine Iverson rejected the idea that Bush budget policy would alienate voters. . . . Lessner acknowledged that conservatives are unlikely to turn to Democrats to bring spending into control. But, he said, the president does face political turmoil if he ignores their concerns."- *FoxNews.com, 1/12/04*

COMMENT: And we thought Pres. Bush was a conservative. He is a fiscal liberal worse than Clinton was. Ed.

TOP REPUBLICANS BLAST GOV. WARNER'S (tax incr) PLAN, SEEK STUDY BY EX-REAGAN AIDE

By Bob Lewis Associated Press Writer RICHMOND, Va.

The state's top Republican elected leaders unleashed a partisan attack Monday on Gov. Mark R. Warner's tax reform package, deriding it as the largest tax increase in state history and hiring a former Reagan budget aide to analyze its consequences.

The strongest GOP salvo yet to the Democratic governor's plans came hours after Warner unveiled a new state-funded Web site that taxpayers can use to automatically estimate how much their taxes are reduced or increased under his plan. House Speaker William J. Howell, the state's most powerful lawmaker, and Attorney General Jerry W. Kilgore said in a memo they issued jointly that Warner's claim that 65 percent of Virginians would pay less in taxes

"is, by the administration's own admissions, demonstrably inaccurate." They said Warner had failed to analyze his plan's potential harm to job creation in Virginia. "It is ... apparent that he neither consulted in advance, nor has developed after the fact, any analysis of his sweeping plan's impact on the Virginia economy and the jobs of hard-working men and women across our commonwealth," the statement said. Howell and Kilgore said they hired James C. Miller, former Reagan administration budget director and failed Republican U.S. Senate candidate, to do an economic impact study of Warner's plan "and to serve as our expert adviser."

And, in a rare commentary on state fiscal issues, U.S. Sen. George F. Allen, R-Va., wrote in a letter to Howell, Kilgore and state Sen. Walter A. Stosch that Warner's plan could harm job creation and stunt an economic recovery in Virginia.

COMMENT: This TAX increase plan will dominate the Session in Richmond this year. Not only is it a budget year, but Gov. Warner has to get this now as he is on the downhill side of his administration.

My recommendation is contact your representative in Richmond and tell them NO NEW TAXES. Have you noticed that nowhere in all of the rhetoric is anyone, no one, talking of reducing spending. Why not? State spending has increased over 50% in the last budget cycle, and over 100% in just 6 years. A lot of new programs. When Gov. Allen came into office the budget was about \$18B, it is now near \$60B. Have you heard of even one office or program being eliminated? Ed.

AMERICANIZATION OF IMMIGRANTS

"What is the best way to turn immigrants into Americans? The answer is assimilation -- or, as it used to be called in the United States 80 or 90 years ago, "Americanization." Assimilation is the key to preserving national unity and fostering common civic values in a nation that comprises hundreds of ethnic backgrounds and millions of foreign-born residents.

"...For generations, immigrants knew from the day they arrived that they were expected to become 'good Americans.' That meant learning English as quickly as possible and accepting it as the national tongue. It meant getting a job and being a productive member of society. It meant celebrating American democracy and sharing in American pride. It meant becoming a US citizen, and holding that citizenship in high esteem.

"...But in recent decades, the assimilationist ethic has been badly undermined. The rise of corrosive

'multiculturalism,' the denigration of American history and values, the growth of the welfare state, the affirmative-action mindset that assigns preferences on the basis of race and ethnicity -- all of these have weakened the assimilationist creed. And they have done so just as the influx of immigrants has surged to levels not seen since early in the 20th century."- *Boston Globe columnist Jeff Jacoby*

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TAXES AND WHO PAYS

Note: Businesses don't pay taxes. You and I pay taxes and we are the only taxpayers. Businesses pass on the cost of "taxes" to consumers, and we pay and we pay. The total number of taxpayers in the US has declined again, we are now only 51%. If the non-taxpayers reach 50% plus one, they can vote themselves anything they want and we, the taxpayers, will have to pay it. *Ed.*

BANISHING BUSINESSES

by William Norman Grigg in the *New American*, 1/12/04

In December, as the Dow crested 10,000 for the first time in over a year and major retailers came under siege by Christmas shoppers, recovery seemed to be at hand. But looming behind these glad tidings was the specter of "outsourcing" as U.S. companies, seeking to cut costs, send well paying jobs in manufacturing and technology abroad.

While it's true that the economy has created many new jobs, for the most part they pay much less than the jobs being lost. Notes former Treasury Department official Paul Craig Roberts: "In November the U.S. economy was able to create only 50,000 private sector jobs - almost all in low paying services [such as] temporary help, "accommodations and food services (hotels, restaurants and bars), and hospitals and ambulatory health care services. This pattern has held through the second year of the 'economic recovery' that began in November 2001. Such jobs cannot support families and most might be filled by recent legal and illegal immigrants."

In the 24 month period ending in November 2003, the economy created roughly 500,000 jobs capable of sustaining a middle-class lifestyle. However, continues Roberts, "all of the income from these 500,000 jobs is offset by the loss of 549,000 manufacturing jobs in the last 12 months. During its second year of recovery; the overall economy experienced a net loss of 183,000 private jobs....."

Many critics of outsourcing insist that the trend is a reflection of incorrigible corporate greed and abysmal foreign wage rates. However, a new report from the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) documents that the federal regulatory burden is the single most important factor behind the exodus of jobs from the U.S.

"U.S. manufacturing has demonstrated the ability to overcome pure wage differentials with trading partners through innovation, capital investment and productivity," comments James Berges, president of Emerson, a St. Louis-based manufacturer of industrial equipment. "But when the additional external costs [of government regulation] are piled on, the task becomes un-manageable, even in the best companies."

Simply put: Many, if not most, American businessmen who

relocate abroad aren't abandoning our nation's free enterprise system. They're fleeing socialism. We are essentially shooting ourselves in the foot compressively by making it too expensive to make products in America.

As our trade deficit grows, and high paying jobs depart our shores, many American employers and workers have come to believe that we must enact protective tariff barriers to block foreign imports. But imposing high tariffs on foreign goods would do nothing to repair the damage being done to the economy at home. The NAM study illustrates that American businesses could compete successfully in the international marketplace - if they were relieved of the onerous burdens placed on them by Washington.

According to the NAM report, "domestically imposed costs - by omission or commission of federal, state, and local governments - are damaging manufacturing more than any foreign competitor

Comment: We need less government, more responsibility and with God's help, we'll have a better World. Ed.

CHA-CHING!

"President Bush yesterday announced that he will propose increasing federal education funding by more than \$2 billion next year for disadvantaged and disabled children. In his second initiative of the new year directed at minorities, the president said the additional funds will be used to continue the progress made under the No Child Left Behind Act, which Mr. Bush signed into law two years ago yesterday."- *Washington Times*, 1/9/04

COMMENT: President Reagan tried hard to eliminate the U.S. Department of Education. He was right, the Feds ought not to be in the education business. Since Bush came into office his annual budget for Education has grown from \$11B to over \$23B. Now this. It is time we called on an accounting of educational dollars. They have too much. Ed.

AMERICA'S FOUNDING LIBERAL

"(Thomas) Paine was not content with advocating reform of government. He went much further. Once a truly democratic government is established by the people what should its goal be? . . . Paine's plan called for free public education, for the relief of the poor, for old-age pensions, for cash benefits to be given at birth and at marriage, and for government-provided jobs and housing to assist the unemployed and immigrants. He urged increases in salaries for excise officers (tax collectors), the lower clergy, and soldiers and sailors. To pay for the operation of his social welfare plan, Paine proposed a graduated income tax."

- "Tom Paine: Voice of Revolution" by Milton Meltzer

DON'T FORGET, TOMORROW WE CAN GO TO RICHMOND TO THE FAMILY FOUNDATION'S TRAINING SESSION. CALL 495-1541.