

GOVERNOR RICK PERRY

Dear Friend,

It is now clear that the message sent by taxpayers in last year's elections to immediately cut spending may not alone be enough to save this country from bankruptcy.

The pressure to reduce spending that started building last November must be dramatically increased.

If we are to have any chance of averting a financial crisis that will devastate every American and dwarf the pain inflicted by the current economic downturn, the big spenders in Washington from the President on down need to feel the growing outrage of the American people.

If you are irate at the gross mismanagement of our nation's finances, I want to urge you to sign and immediately return the enclosed Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW) Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW.

Before I tell you more about why your signature on this Citizen's Demand is so important right now, let me properly introduce myself.

I am the Governor of Texas. Last fall, the people of the Lone Star State honored me by electing me to a third term as Governor.

One of the central reasons why I was returned to office with a very strong 57 percent of the vote was because of my unwavering conviction that cutting wasteful government spending and reducing taxes is the best and only way to create jobs and achieve lasting prosperity.

In fact, *The Wall Street Journal* has credited my state's low taxes and employer-friendly environment with helping to make Texas the job creation capital of the nation.

Texas' policies have been touted many more times in the media, especially in relation to my state's performance during the recent recession, with headlines such as "Low-Tax Texas Beats Big-Government California" and "4 Reasons Why Texas Beat California in a Recession."

Despite being "shellacked" in last year's elections and all the evidence that big-government spending harms the economy, puts people out of work and places a crushing burden of debt on our children and grandchildren, President Obama and the big spenders in Washington are undaunted in their efforts to wildly expand government and spend trillions of dollars we don't have.

This financial insanity must be stopped.

There is an increasing number of examples that show the new majority in the House of

Representatives does, in fact, understand the financial crisis we face. They are beginning to take important actions to reduce the mind-boggling \$1.6 trillion deficit the Obama Administration has forecast for this year and lessen the destructive impact of ObamaCare. But they are being stymied from taking the most sweeping and important steps by the big spenders in the Senate and President Obama.

What's more, if the House majority is going to truly wrestle with and implement the entitlement reforms that are at the heart of saving this nation from bankruptcy, they are going to need an unprecedented outpouring of support from Americans.

They need the vocal support of Americans who understand that we cannot possibly continue on our current course without eventually defaulting on our obligations, devaluing our currency, facing massive inflation, incurring staggeringly high personal and business taxes, or most likely a toxic mixture of all of the above.

One of the very best ways you can make your voice heard in Washington right now is by signing and returning the Citizens Against Government Waste Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW.

If you take the time and effort to sign and return the CAGW Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW, it will say that you not only care deeply but you are willing to take action to save America's future.

This concrete evidence of both your support for spending cuts and your willingness to fight for what you believe in will scare the big spenders. When Citizens Against Government Waste tabulates and publicizes your Citizen's Demand along with countless others from across the nation, it will send an unmistakable message that the cry for real spending cuts is growing.

Before you do anything else today, I urge you to sign and return your CAGW Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW.

If you are hesitating for even a moment to sign your Citizen's Demand and join shoulder-to-shoulder with me and hundreds of thousands of other Americans from every state in this effort to stop out-of-control spending, let me share with you a couple of stunning facts about the budget and some examples of wasteful spending that must be immediately cut.

Do you realize that the federal deficit this year will reach a record \$1.6 trillion? In the course of the entire year, the federal government will bring in tax revenue of \$2.1 trillion and spend \$3.7 trillion.

President Obama and his allies in Congress are spending 75 percent more than the government's receiving in revenue.

It would be like someone who is making \$30,000 a year spending more than \$52,000 by maxing out their credit cards and other lines of credit. It doesn't matter whether you are a family, a state or a country. If you spend 75 percent more than you make, you're going to go bankrupt. It is almost inconceivable what President Obama and the big spenders are doing to this country. They are setting a financial time bomb that will explode and devastate every American family unless it is immediately disarmed. And exactly what are they spending your

money on?

Here is just a very small taste of what they thought was so important that they could rack up a national debt that is now more than \$14 trillion. Our future along with that of our children and grandchildren is being jeopardized so that Washington can spend:

- \$45 billion this year in what is left of the \$862 billion failed "economic stimulus";
- \$7.5 billion annually on travel expenses for federal bureaucrats;
- \$2.5 billion annually for high-speed rail projects that will never make money;
- \$1.6 billion annually on Amtrak subsidies;
- \$455 million annually for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting;
- \$200 million annually for the Market Access Program;
- \$167.5 million annually for the National Endowment for the Arts; and,
- \$167.5 million annually for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

I could go on and on. This President is doubling our national debt; near-record numbers of Americans are out of work; millions of businesses have failed; countless Americans have lost their homes; and the President and his allies are running up record debt to pay for extremely wasteful programs.

I cannot urge you strongly enough to join this national campaign for an end to the dangerous deficit spending by signing and returning immediately your Citizens Against Government Waste Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW.

And when you do, I want to urge you in the strongest possible terms to also send Citizens Against Government Waste a special contribution to enable them to expand their campaign to recruit and rally countless Americans from coast-to-coast to vocally demand spending cuts.

What's more, they need a contribution from you today so that they can continue to escalate their highly acclaimed efforts to arm the fiscal conservatives in Congress with both a list of the spending cuts that will make the greatest impact and the facts, figures and arguments to defend each critical spending cut.

I have worked closely with Citizens Against Government Waste and CAGW President Tom Schatz since 1998. I delivered the keynote speech at CAGW's "Governing in the 21st Century" Conference in San Antonio in May 1998, just six months before I was elected Lieutenant Governor of Texas. When George W. Bush was elected President in 2000, I became Governor of Texas. CAGW has been supportive of my efforts to cut taxes and eliminate earmarks during my first two terms as governor. Since we share a common vision of limited government as the best path to prosperity, I believe CAGW is the right organization to spearhead this Stop Deficit Spending NOW drive and they deserve your support.

You may have heard of CAGW. It was established in 1984 by the late businessman J. Peter Grace and late Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jack Anderson as an organization fighting for the implementation of President Ronald Reagan's Grace Commission recommendations. You may remember the Grace Commission for exposing the government's \$436 hammer and \$640 toilet seat.

CAGW has played a critical, leading role in headline-making campaigns that resulted in

cutting off Supplemental Security Income cash payments for drug addicts and alcoholics, ending Food Stamps for convicted felons, enacting sweeping reforms of Medicare that have eliminated \$10.6 billion in fraud, and closing the doors of outdated government agencies and under-utilized or obsolete military bases. And these are just a few of the hundreds of documented victories that have helped save taxpayers \$1.08 trillion since 1984.

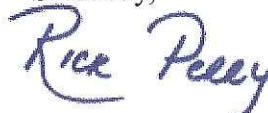
Recently, you may have heard of CAGW as a result of their coast-to-coast television advertising campaign. CAGW's "Chinese Professor" ad, which ran extensively on national television in 2010 and again in January of this year, earned widespread acclaim as the "most powerful [issue ad] of the cycle." In the ad, a "Professor" speaks entirely in Chinese with English subtitles. He explains how because of the massive debts being incurred right now, of which the Chinese are the largest foreign holder, in the year 2030 Americans work for China.

For your children, grandchildren and this nation, please take a moment now to speak out and demand a halt to the massive deficits that are wrecking this country by completing and returning your CAGW Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW. And when you return your Citizen's Demand, it is equally important that you send a contribution to CAGW to both rally more Americans to wage this historic battle and help the fiscal conservatives in Washington counter the false and misleading claims of the big spenders who argue that any spending cut will be cruel.

CAGW's ability to both rally support and help fiscal conservatives ward off the attacks of the left-wing politicians and their big-government allies will be critical to winning the spending cuts necessary to save America from bankruptcy. I implore you to support CAGW financially today with a contribution of \$25, \$35, \$50 or more. Some Americans are so concerned about how President Obama and the big spenders are bankrupting America that they are sending \$75, \$100 or even \$250 or more to wage this battle.

As you decide how much to send to support their vital efforts to slash dangerous deficit spending, let me again say that CAGW is spearheading this history-changing national drive because it is the most accomplished taxpayer organization in America today with a long track record of eliminating hundreds of billions of dollars in wasteful government programs. That is why they are now leading the battle for massive cuts in deficit spending. But they can't do it without your Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW and your most generous contribution. America is running out of time. CAGW needs your help. Please answer today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Honorable Rick Perry
Governor of Texas

P.S. I believe that, like me, you are profoundly troubled by the reckless and irresponsible spending in Washington that has put this nation on a course to bankruptcy. If that is true, your voice needs to be heard very loudly in Washington right now. Please sign your CAGW Citizen's Demand to Stop Deficit Spending NOW and return it with your largest possible contribution to CAGW today.