

Our Government's Debt

I. Introduction

- A. Attention getter: So there you are in the store. You check your online bank account to see that you are \$ 1,128.00 in the negative. If this is you, you have something in common with the federal government; only that's billions in debt instead of just a thousand (Fraser, 2012).
- B. Establish credibility: While doing research for this speech, I have learned many interesting facts about our federal government's spending habits.
- C. Thesis statement: At the conclusion of this presentation, I want you to have a more realistic view of the state of the country and its deficit.
- D. Preview statement: During this presentation, I will on describe several problem areas in our federal spending habits, the causes of these problems, and some solutions to decrease the deficit.

II. Body

A. Main point 1 – National Deficit Continues to Grow

- 1. According to Treasurydirect (2014), as of January 2, 2014, the public debt was at 17,315,970,933,899.63.
 - a) Held by the public: \$12,334,521,348,018.90
 - (1) This averages to about \$54,000 per person. ()
 - b) Intragovernmental spending \$4,981,449,585,880.73 (Treasurydirect, 2014).
- 2. Defense Budget/ Defense budget has grown rapidly over a short period causing a drain on the economy.
- 3. Entitlement Spending /Entitlement Spending has grown exponentially causing massive debts to our budget (Fraser, 2012).
- 4. Discretionary Spending / Surges in Discretionary spending has caused the national deficit to grow largely in part to increased social welfare programs (Fraser, 2012).

B. Main point 2 – Reasons the Deficit is continually growing.

- 1. Defense Budget /Because of the massive deployments and huge budgets of the past the military has become accustomed to spending vast amounts of money to accomplish their goals.

2. Entitlement Spending / Next the huge soar of entitlement programs has caused a strain on taxpaying Americans (Fraser 2012).
 3. Discretionary Spending / Last the rising percentage of discretionary spending that is
- C. Main point 3 – Deficit Solution(s)
1. Defense Budget / Scale back on deployments, and make cutbacks on unnecessary Defense programs.
 2. Entitlement Spending / Investigate fraud and implement new checks and balances in order to limit misuse of the system (Fraser, 2012).
 3. Discretionary Spending / Investigate Fraud such as spending over a million dollars on conferences for government employees (Fraser, 2012)

III. Conclusion

- A. As you have seen the national deficit is a current problem that we must take seriously. The problems, causes, and solutions are concepts that we need to take seriously as our nation tries to get out of debt!
- B. I hope that you have come to the understanding that the national deficit is a real problem, and if we want it to change we must unite together.
- C. Think about the negative balance in your online bank account that I mentioned in the beginning of the speech. You would do whatever it takes to keep it in the positive, so why should we treat our government's checkbook any different?

References

- Fraser, A. A. (2012, October 16). Federal spending by the numbers - 2012. *The Heritage Foundation*. Retrieved from <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2012/10/federal-spending-by-the-numbers-2012>
- Harris, Kelsey (2013, June 17). Morning bell: 17 reasons the \$17 trillion debt is still a big deal. [Web blog]. Retrieved from <http://blog.heritage.org/2013/06/17/morning-bell-17-reasons-the-17-trillion-debt-is-still-a-big-deal/>
- TreasuryDirect (2014, January 2). *The Debt to the Penny and Who Holds It*. *TreasuryDirect*. Retrieved from <http://www.treasurydirect.gov/NP/debt/current>