TAXPAYERS PROTECTION ALLIANCE

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Watchdog Urges Trump Administration to Take Stronger Stand on Spending After Release of 2021 Budget

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, the Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA) urged the Trump administration to take a stronger stand against reckless spending following the release of the fiscal year (FY) 2021 President's Budget. Though the $4.8 trillion proposed budget for FY 2021 envisions $4.4 trillion in reduced spending through 2030, the administration only calls for decreases in the growth of overall spending instead of genuine budget cuts. Furthermore, the Trump administration promises high revenue figures on optimistic economic growth assumptions of more than 3 percent for most of the decade.

TPA President David Williams reacted to the release of the budget, stating, "the Trump administration has repeatedly promised the American people that he would allow taxpayers to keep more of their hard-earned money and reduce the size and scope of government. He delivered on the first with tax reform, but, sky-high budgets over the past three years have shown that spending is a bipartisan problem and few elected officials – including President Trump – are willing and able to deliver on good government and spending reform. The President's Budget for FY 2021 is just the latest example of a government unwilling to acknowledge the need for significant, across-the-board cuts to wasteful spending in Washington, D.C."

Williams continued: "The U.S. may be in peacetime, but that hasn't stopped the Pentagon and Congress from requesting an ever-increasing amount of taxpayer dollars. FY 2020's Defense spending total of $738 billion already far exceeds the highest Defense budget (adjusting for inflation) enacted during the Reagan years at the height of the Cold War. Yet, the President wants the Pentagon to have even greater access to hard-earned taxpayer dollars, proposing an astounding $407 billion (more than $40 billion a year) in increased spending through 2030. While a well-funded military is critical to America's future, growing budgets reflect runaway earmark spending on supplies the Pentagon didn't even ask for. Congress spent more than $16 billion last year on 785 earmarks, yet the President wants to add even more fuel to the fire with continued military spending increases."

Williams concluded: "The President's Budget is not without its bright spots, such as curbing runaway farm subsidies to wealthy agribusinesses and stemming the tide of improper payments. But President Trump must focus on the big picture if he wants to bring real spending reform to Washington, D.C. The American people simply cannot afford trillion-dollar deficits."

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Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to educating the public through the research, analysis and dissemination of information on the government's effects on the economy.

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