

Here is what the President had to say. In 2009 he said:

What we have done is kicked this can down the road. We are now at the end of the road. We are not in a position to kick it any further.

We can only find \$4 billion to save? President Obama said last year:

I hope some of the folks who are hollering about deficits and debt step up, because I am calling their bluff.

We can only save \$4 billion?

My administration is going to seek to work with Congress to execute serious entitlement reform.

And then as Senator the President said:

Increasing America's debt weakens us domestically, weakens us internationally. Leadership means the buck stops here. Instead, Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today on to the backs of our children and grandchildren. America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership.

I ask, where is the President of the United States in this debate? Where is the President of the United States? His debt commission came out months ago and recommended \$4 trillion in savings. No support from the President. The President made an eloquent State of the Union Address. I sat on the front row and applauded many times. No sense of urgency about the Federal debt. The President offered his budget a few weeks ago. No plan for reducing the Federal debt.

Now we are taking step No. 1, which is to work on the discretionary part of the budget—only about 12 percent of the budget. The House is willing to take difficult steps; the Senate Democratic majority says we can only find an amount that equals the debt we are piling up in one 24-hour period; and the President is missing in action.

I respectfully say that is not leadership. We need the President of the United States to join us in an effort to stop our country from spending money we don't have, in making difficult decisions about spending, so we can assure the strength and future of our country.

The question before us is will we or will we not stop spending money we don't have? Will we or will we not make the difficult decisions it takes to reduce spending so that our country will be strong for the future?

The other side says they can find \$4.7 billion to save. We say we can start with \$57 billion. I will vote for the \$57 billion and against the \$4.7 billion because that is a sure step toward a bright path for America's future.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator yield back the remaining time? There is 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of our time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

Under the previous order, the question is on the passage of H.R. 1. Under that order, 60 votes are required for passage.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 44, nays 56, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 36 Leg.]

YEAS—44

Alexander	Ensign	McConnell
Ayotte	Enzi	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blunt	Grassley	Portman
Boozman	Hatch	Risch
Brown (MA)	Hoeven	Roberts
Burr	Hutchison	Rubio
Chambliss	Inhofe	Sessions
Coats	Isakson	Shelby
Coburn	Johanns	Snowe
Cochran	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Collins	Kirk	Toomey
Corker	Kyl	Vitter
Cornyn	Lugar	Wicker
Crapo	McCain	

NAYS—56

Akaka	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Baucus	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Begich	Inouye	Paul
Bennet	Johnson (SD)	Pryor
Bingaman	Kerry	Reed
Blumenthal	Klobuchar	Reid
Boxer	Kohl	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Landrieu	Sanders
Cantwell	Lautenberg	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Lee	Stabenow
Casey	Levin	Tester
Conrad	Lieberman	Udall (CO)
Coons	Manchin	Udall (NM)
DeMint	McCaskill	Warner
Durbin	Menendez	Webb
Feinstein	Merkley	Whitehouse
Franken	Mikulski	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 44, the nays 56. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for passage of this bill, the bill is rejected.

The majority leader.

AMENDMENT NO. 149

Mr. REID. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator INOUE, I send to the desk amendment No. 149.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID], for Mr. INOUE, proposes an amendment numbered 149.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of Friday, March 4, 2011.)

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 149.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 42, nays 58, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 37 Leg.]

YEAS—42

Akaka	Feinstein	Mikulski
Baucus	Franken	Murray
Begich	Gillibrand	Pryor
Bingaman	Harkin	Reed
Blumenthal	Inouye	Reid
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Brown (OH)	Kerry	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Lautenberg	Tester
Casey	Leahy	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Lieberman	Warner
Coons	Menendez	Whitehouse
Durbin	Merkley	Wyden

NAYS—58

Alexander	Grassley	Murkowski
Ayotte	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Barrasso	Hatch	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Hoeven	Paul
Blunt	Hutchison	Portman
Boozman	Inhofe	Risch
Brown (MA)	Isakson	Roberts
Burr	Johanns	Rubio
Chambliss	Johnson (WI)	Sanders
Coats	Kirk	Sessions
Coburn	Kohl	Shelby
Cochran	Kyl	Snowe
Collins	Lee	Thune
Corker	Levin	Toomey
Cornyn	Lugar	Udall (CO)
Crapo	Manchin	Vitter
DeMint	McCain	Webb
Ensign	McCaskill	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	
Graham	Moran	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, there are 42 yeas, 58 nays. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for adoption of this amendment, the amendment is rejected.

Under the previous order, the measure will be returned to the calendar.

The Senator from Minnesota.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE BIG PICTURE

Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about H.R. 1, the House bill we just voted down and which I will continue to oppose until major changes are made. With apologies to Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman, I would like to talk about Willy Sutton for a second. While we should not normally take fiscal lessons from criminals, Willy Sutton had it right. He said he robbed banks because "that's where the money is." Of course, he didn't target places with only petty cash. What is the point of robbing a school or a homeless shelter? There is no money there. But that is exactly what H.R. 1 seeks to do.

Instead of tackling our deficits by going after the bank, it is targeting our most vulnerable. Domestic non-security discretionary spending makes up only 12 percent of our budget. We cannot balance the budget with only 12 percent of the budget on the table. We need to be looking at the big picture. We need to be focusing on the bank, where the money is.