



## AMERICANS FOR LIMITED GOVERNMENT

9900 MAIN STREET SUITE 303 • FAIRFAX, VA 22031 • PHONE 703.383.0880 • FAX: 703.383.5288 • WWW.GETLIBERTY.ORG

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011

The Honorable Harry Reid  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Dear Senate Majority Leader Reid and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell:

Americans for Limited Government urges your support of defunding the \$420 million of taxpayer funding received by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The House of Representatives has already passed a year-long continuing resolution that accomplishes that objective and now it is the Senate's turn act in setting the nation's fiscal priorities.

With a \$1.65 trillion budget deficit projected by the Office of Management and Budget this year, and a \$14.1 trillion national debt that cannot be paid back, taxpayers no longer can afford to fund luxuries like public broadcasting.

Plus, it is becoming increasingly clear that the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and National Public Radio, could get along just fine without any taxpayer funding. According to a newly released undercover video report, NPR's Senior VP for Development, Ron Schiller said, "It's very clear that we would be better off in the long-run without federal funding."

Schiller explained why NPR would be better off without taxpayer funding: "I think for independence, number one. Number two, is that our job would be a lot easier if people weren't confused about—because we get federal funding, a lot of Americans, a lot of philanthropists, actually think we get most of our money from the federal government, even though NPR, as you know, gets 1 percent and the station economy as a whole gets 10 percent."

So, according to senior fundraisers at NPR, the Senate could do them a favor by adopting the House continuing resolution, which strips its parent company, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, of all its \$420 million in taxpayer funding. Taxpayers are demanding accountability of all taxpayer-subsidized entities, and in these stressful fiscal times, it is time for Congress to distinguish between needs and wants. We can longer afford to fund luxuries that can fund themselves.

Sincerely,

William Wilson  
President  
Americans for Limited Government

CC: The members of the U.S. Senate