

The Campaign to Fix the Debt

FOUNDERS

ERSKINE BOWLES

AL SIMPSON

The Campaign to Fix the Debt is a non-partisan campaign to put America on a better fiscal and economic path.

We come together from a variety of social, economic and political perspectives, united in a common belief that America's growing federal debt threatens our future and that we must address it.

CHAIRMEN

JUDD GREGG

EDWARD RENDELL

The Campaign will mobilize key communities—including leaders from business, government, and policy—and voters across America who expect our elected officials to implement a comprehensive plan to fix our long-term debt and deficits.

In our history, America has always been able to come together to tackle its greatest challenges, and it's time to do it again.

STEERING COMMITTEE

PHIL BREDESEN

DAVID COTE

SAM NUNN

MICHAEL PETERSON

STEVEN RATTNER

ROBERT ZOELICK

The Campaign is built around the following core principles:

- *Policymakers should acknowledge that our growing debt is a serious threat to the economic well-being and security of the United States.*
- *It is urgent and essential that we put in place a plan to fix America's debt. An effective plan must stabilize the debt as a share of the economy, and put it on a downward path.*
- *This plan should be enacted now, but implemented gradually to protect the fragile economic recovery and to give Americans time to prepare for the changes in the federal budget.*
- *In order to develop a fiscal plan that can succeed both financially and politically, it must be bipartisan and reforms to all areas of the budget should be included. The plan should:*
 - *Reform Medicare and Medicaid, improve efficiency in the overall health care system, and limit future cost growth;*
 - *Strengthen Social Security, so that it is solvent and will be there for future beneficiaries; and*
 - *Include comprehensive and pro-growth tax reform, which broadens the base, lowers rates, raises revenues, and reduces the deficit.*
- *The recommendations of the bipartisan Simpson-Bowles Commission, which saved \$4 trillion and addressed all parts of the budget, provide an effective framework for such a plan.*
- *The plan should be conducive to long-term economic growth, protect the vulnerable, include credible enforcement mechanisms to ensure that the debt reduction is achieved, and leave the next generation better off.*

Campaign Structure

The Campaign to Fix the Debt is operated by the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, under the leadership of Maya MacGuineas. Since 1981, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget has been a leading voice in Washington for fiscal responsibility and budget reform. The organization draws on its solid reputation as a provider of objective research and analysis, and takes guidance from a distinguished, bipartisan Board of Directors comprised of many of the former leaders of the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of Management and Budget, the Government Accountability Office, the congressional budget committees, and the Federal Reserve.

The Campaign's Steering Committee is comprised of a bipartisan group of national leaders including: Erskine Bowles, Governor Phil Bredesen, Dave Cote, Senator Judd Gregg, Congressman Jim McCrery, Senator Sam Nunn, Michael Peterson, Steve Rattner, Governor Ed Rendell, Senator Al Simpson and Ambassador Bob Zoellick.

The Campaign will work closely with its CEO Fiscal Leadership Council, made up of over 100 CEOs and business leaders who support a comprehensive debt deal.

CRFB will work collaboratively with a number of likeminded partners, including well-established groups like the Concord Coalition, the Bipartisan Policy Center, the Brookings-Heritage Fiscal Seminar, and the Business Industry Political Action Committee (BIPAC) – as well as newer grassroots movements such as “The Can Kicks Back” and “Enact the Plan”. As a 501(c)(3) organization, we are prohibited from certain direct advocacy and political campaign activity.

Concerned Americans are encouraged to sign the Citizen's Petition to Fix the Debt and join the campaign at <http://www.fixthedebt.org/>.