

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In a continued effort to bring news and relevant information about our federal government back to his home district in Los Angeles, Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and Ranking Member of the Social Security Subcommittee, brings you "The Becerra Bulletin," an e-newsletter filled with facts and information meant to stimulate thought and discussion about American economic policy and a host of other issues.

## BY THE NUMBERS

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### **REP. BECERRA VOTES AGAINST BUDGET THAT PRIVATIZES MEDICARE AND MAKES PERMANENT TAX CUTS FOR THE WEALTHIEST AMERICANS**

On April 15, the Republican majority in the House of Representatives voted to pass a Fiscal Year 2012 budget that [ends Medicare](#) as we know it while cutting taxes for the richest Americans. And that's not all it does. Here are the takeaway facts and figures from the fallout that would result if this budget became the law of the land:

- **1.7 million American jobs would be lost** by 2014 according to independent economist and former John McCain advisor Mark Zandi.
- A typical 65-year-old would lose Medicare coverage and be forced to pay over **\$6,000 more per year for their health care** under a privatized voucher system according to the Congressional Budget Office.
- **9.4 million college students** would see the cost of tuition go up as Pell Grants are cut.
- **218,000 children** would be removed from Head Start programs.
- Nearly **10,000 teachers and aides** could lose their jobs, resulting in larger class sizes.

After asking millions of middle class families to sacrifice, what does this budget do with the

savings? It cuts the top tax rate for the richest Americans by 10 percentage points and adds \$6 trillion to our national debt.

Congressman Becerra voted against the Fiscal Year 2012 budget and [said](#) : “Budgets speak to our values and priorities. The priorities outlined in this Republican budget are completely out of step with the principles embraced by the American people—jobs, economic growth, fiscal discipline, and fairness. Ten years ago, President George W. Bush handed out massive tax breaks for the wealthy. The result? The worst decade of job creation in a generation and a budget that went from surpluses as far as the eye can see to unending deficits. Our country cannot afford to keep doing the same wrong-headed thing time and again expecting a different result. It’s time to get serious about putting Americans back to work and responsibly dealing with the deficit. This budget does neither.”

[View video](#) of Rep. Becerra’s speech on the floor of the House before the vote:

SHORT TAKES – WASHINGTON, D.C.

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### **REP. BECERRA SPEAKS IN-DEPTH ABOUT FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ON C-SPAN’S WASHINGTON JOURNAL**

On March 31, Rep. Becerra appeared on C-SPAN’s Washington Journal to talk about the federal deficit and national debt and respond to listener questions. Topics included the impact of tax cuts for the rich and the costs of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq on the deficit. He also discussed the importance of preserving and strengthening Medicare and Social Security. View the complete episode [here](#) :

