



## Republicans' Abject Surrender on Spending

In a rare Saturday session, the Senate passed the "cromnibus" spending bill that the House of Representatives approved last Thursday. Twenty Republican senators joined 36 Democrats in voting for the \$1.3 trillion measure, which will fund most of the federal government through September.

The one exception is the Department of Homeland Security, which gets funding only through February. This means the new Congress can take another whack at cutting off money to implement President Obama's unconstitutional amnesty program. Based on what just happened, though, I wouldn't bet on it.

There are so many things wrong with this legislative monstrosity that I hardly know where to begin. Let's start with the fact that members of the House had less than 24 hours to review the bill before they had to vote on it. The chances that anyone actually read the 1,600-page conglomeration, and knew all of the pork that was packed in it, are just about zero.

Earlier this year, House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) promised members they would always have at least three full days to review a bill before a vote would be taken. But when it came time to approve this one, that promise was tossed out the window.

It's going to take a while to learn about all of the pork that this \$1.3 trillion spending bill contains. Let me just point out that until last Friday, the "cromnibus" measure carried a \$1.1 trillion price tag. But by the time it came up for final approval, another \$200 billion had been added to it. Stand still, taxpayers, while we fleece you some more.

Almost every part of the federal behemoth is fully funded in this massive spending bill. The only exceptions are the Internal Revenue Service and the Environmental Protection Agency, which both had a little bit trimmed from their budgets. But the White House said no worries; even though Obama said there were a few parts of the measure he didn't like, he would be certain to sign it when it reached his desk.

The most nauseating display of hypocrisy over the budget battle was the left's outflowing of praise for their latest idol, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.). She was hailed as a paragon of virtue because of her efforts to kill the measure and, thus, force a government shutdown.

When Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas), a Tea Party favorite, threatened to do the same thing over his opposition



Written by [Wallis W. Wood](#) on December 16, 2014

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to funding Obama's illegal and unconstitutional amnesty program, he was vilified in the mainstream media for being an irresponsible obstructionist. When a conservative makes a bold stand on principle, it's not praiseworthy, of course. It's an example of being a dangerous extremist.

God save us from the hypocrisy of the Left!

Warren scored points from her progressive friends for her objections to part of the bill that would repeal some provisions of the Dodd-Frank law. The result would be to allow big banks to trade in some risky financial derivatives and still be eligible for federal assistance if things went wrong. "This is about preventing another financial collapse," she thundered, "that could again wipe out millions of jobs and take down our whole economy."

Her dire warnings weren't enough to win the support of a majority of her Democratic colleagues. But they certainly gained her a ton of favorable publicity in the media. The hosannas got louder when 300 former Obama supporters issued an open letter urging her to run for president in 2016. And the super left-wing Moveon.org promised to put up \$1 million to prime the pump for such a campaign.

The headline on the front page of The Wall Street Journal hailed the passage of the spending bill as "A Rare Bipartisan Success." And I guess that's true — if by "success" you mean business as usual in Washington, D.C.

If this is what "compromise" looks like, I prefer gridlock.

Until next time, keep some powder dry.

*Chip Wood was the first news editor of The Review of the News and also wrote for American Opinion, our two predecessor publications. He is now the geopolitical editor of Personal Liberty Digest. This article first appeared on [PersonalLiberty.com](#) and has been reprinted with permission.*



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