



ROSSMOOR NEWS

WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA

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Republican Perspective

By Irene Baroni

This Is Not Rocket Science!

This is not rocket science, my friends. If we can read, America can operate for the benefit of its citizens. As a straightforward and uncompromising Constitutional Conservative, I know that the resolution of America's present economic tribulation is remarkably uncomplicated. After all, we do have a foundation and a structure. We have a set of rules to follow. We have a Constitution, which was written to protect us.

If America were a large city, it would become impossible to maneuver safely if the vast majority of its populace lived as deliberately lawless drivers who made illegal turns, ran stop signs, ignored parking regulations, exceeded speed limits, sped through red lights, drove under the influence of alcohol or meandered along at a snail's pace for their own benefit. Driving statutes are written to protect citizens.

However, because there is a serious driving problem in America, we have a police department to enforce driving regulations, and they are unconditionally supported by courts and fines. But who enforces the Constitution of the United States of America? Who gives a ticket to our elected representatives (Democrats, Republicans and the president) who knowingly violate our Constitution that was written to protect us from them?

There is nothing complicated about our financial problems when we read our Constitution. The House of Representatives has been given the right to grant or withhold money. All spending absolutely must originate in the House of Representatives. This means that all members of Congress and senators have the right to determine whether or not they want to devote money to a specific government endeavor. It is a fact that members of the House of Representatives have the constitutional right to use their own judgment when making an expenditure decision. We elect them because we trust their judgment to represent us. If they don't, we can vote them out, call them, request an appointment to see them, write them or demonstrate our disapproval in more creative ways.

America's financial problems are simple to explain. The amount of money approved by Congress for the government to spend was enough to cover everything that the government does, except for the funding of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare).

Sadly, it was our elected senators who chose not to give their support to the approved money. It was indeed the Senate that opted to vote not to sanction that money to be spent. The reason? The money approved by Congress did not include Obamacare and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid led the political parade by demanding a clean bill, which would include the Affordable Care Act.

If Senator Reid and President Obama refuse to accept the money required to run the government, it is their Constitutional right to do so. However, to blame Congress (specifically the Republican Tea Party conservatives) for shutting down the government, when they emphatically refused to use the money authorized to amply pay for everything else, is outright fraud.

President Barack Obama claims that those who control the flow of government money are trying a new tactic to change government policy by withholding money. This is an example of "legislation by appropriation" and it is hardly new. In a 2013 article in the American Thinker, the author writes, "It's called legislating through appropriation. Republicans do it. Democrats do it. It's part of the legislative process. It's not illegal. It's not immoral. And it is most certainly constitutional. As a strategy, it only invokes moral outrage when someone's sacred cow is being sacrificed in the struggle."

We've all heard that because of the conservative Republicans the government won't be able to pay what it owes on the national debt and that we are in danger of creating a default. Has tax money stopped flowing in? Were we all given absolution from the burden of taxes during the "shutdown"? Our tax outlays continue to surge into the Treasury every day and they vastly surpass the interest that must be paid on the national debt.

All we need to demand as a nation is that our Constitution be adhered to. But that begins with every American reading it! Once the preponderance of American citizens is armed with constitutional knowledge, we'll realize that our previous speaker of the House cannot cram legislation through Congress by saying, "Let's pass the bill first, and then read it."

It doesn't matter whether you are for or against the Affordable Care Act. What matters is that Americans did not rise up and object to the irresponsible way the bill was passed. It was neither constitutional nor done with our welfare in mind. Our elected representatives are not permitted to have golden health care programs, enormous pensions and all-expense paid lives. America has allowed the marvelously created balance of power system of the U.S. Constitutional to become a separate elitist society (little princes and princesses) that has sovereignty and a lifestyle far beyond the limits of our Constitution.

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