

UNDERSTANDING PRESIDENT TRUMP'S 2025 BUDGET¹

A POP QUIZ

SOME INCONVENIENT TRUTHS

CONFESSIONS OF A RETIREE²

Understanding, in Pop Quiz format, the 2025-2034 Budget from the eyes of a concerned American citizen and retiree with engineering, legal and executive MBA credentials.

First, unanswered bewilderment questions:

- **1.3 Seconds To Success.** Why does the Budget punish complementary clean renewable energy programmes since the total quantity of non-renewable carbon energy consumed on earth in a single day from all sources, is the same quantity of free sunshine renewable energy that strikes the earth every 1.3 seconds?
- **Hitting The Wall.** Why are billions of dollars spent on a U.S.-Mexico border wall, paid in part by reduction in health, environmental and social service programmes, since undocumented immigrant entry deterrence is as a result of aggressive ICE immigration law enforcement tactics and not because of a physical barrier wall (most of which was in place by prior Administrations and not the Trump Administration)?
- **Waste Not – Want Not.** Why is priority given to accelerating the consumption of domestic non-renewable depleting carbon energy resources (oil, gas, coal), in part by expanding tax and economic incentives given to the well-developed oil and gas industry?
- **Profits Over Pollution & Safety (Drill-Baby-Drill and Pollute- Baby-Pollute).** Does it make sense to put profits over pollution and safety that adversely affects health and quality of human life because of terminated common sense environmental and safety regulatory standards of conduct?
- **Silence Is Not Golden But When Spending Fools Gold On A Fool's Errand.** Why is the Budget silent about (i) promoting living in an environmentally cleaner world; (ii) advancing peace and living in harmony with America's neighbors; (iii) making the world great again, since all humans live in the same 8-mile-thick atmospheric life sustaining spacesuit; (iv) honest and scholarly reflection on the benefits and disadvantages of tariffs - a tax on commerce affecting the poor and the consumer?
- **Hunting Of The Snark.** Is merely saying something three times make it true? (Wrestlin' ain't fake and global warming does not exist)

ABSTRACT

If nothing else, but for the sake of variety, listening to political commentators, politicians and experts explaining the meaning of life and the 870-page 2025 budget bill, here are my self-researched³ un-expert simple thoughts in pop-quiz question and answer format from a concerned⁴ American citizen retiree about the bill.

Perhaps, just like religion and quantum mechanics, there will always be mysteries and some questions that can never be explained or answered... at least while I remain erect on this earth and not under it ...though *the ends justifies the means message* – scary stuff to think about - seems to be the budget implementation tactic of choice to come close to the mystical explanations and answers⁵....

DISCLAIMER NO. 1: I will cite various facts and figures. Unlike social media gossip, if any reader desires to know the source of my information, drop me a line and I will gladly point you to the independent objective reference. Larry D. Killion, P.E, J.D. (larrykillion@yahoo.com)

DISCLAIMER NO. 2: There are components of the Budget that have a beneficial impact on me personally. Equally, there are components that have a detrimental impact on me personally. For my Budget balance sheet, there are many more negatives than positives.

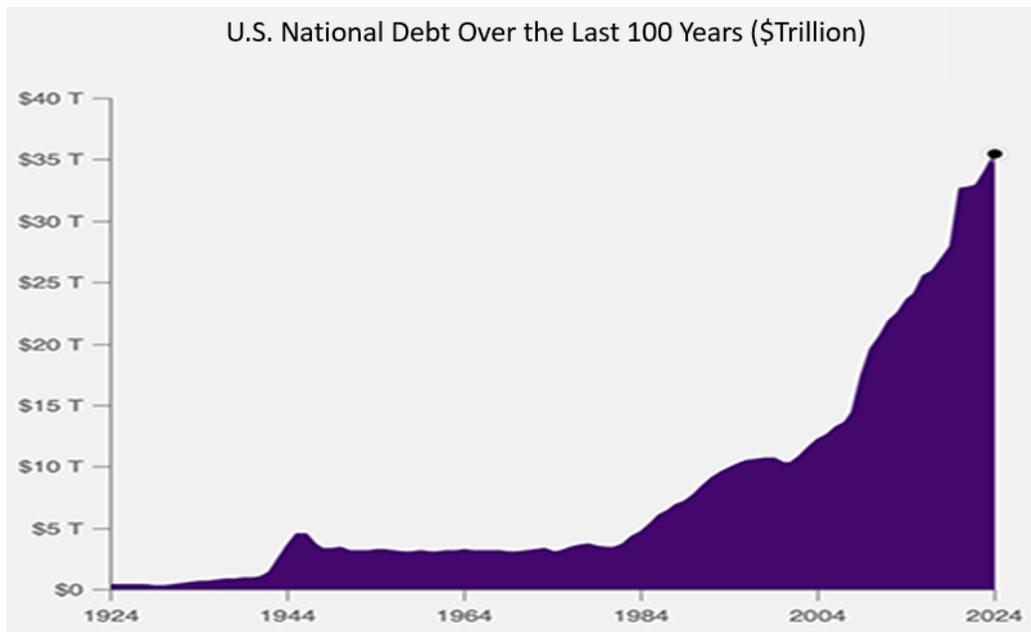
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BIG PICTURE BUDGET QUESTIONS

Some inconvenient truth questions

- Yes or No: Is Government a Business?
 - Yes
 - NoAns.: No⁶
- True or False: As in all things in life, a thing (such as a budget or a gun⁷, for example) can have one of three purposes...
 1. **USED**
 - (for its intended beneficial purpose, for the gun, sport or justified self-defense, since people kill people, not guns, which are just a means similar to substituting a knife or a baseball bat),
 2. **MISUSED**
 - (unjustified coercion or threat) or
 3. **ABUSED**
 - (illegal criminal act such as robbery or terrorism).
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: *No matter the political party*, the national debt (how much the U.S. as a debtor owes its creditors, sorta like a home mortgage) has increased every year since at least 1977.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True



- True or False: Over the past 100 years, the U.S. federal debt has increased from \$395 Billion in 1924, \$1 Trillion in 1977 and to \$37 Trillion in 2025!
 - True
 - False

Ans.: True

- True or False: Between ...
 - ❖ 1977 and 2000, the national debt increased on average 9.5% per year (actual);
 - ❖ 2000 and 2025, 7.7% per year (actual);
 - ❖ 2025 and 2034, 1% per year (Budget estimate⁸).
 - True
 - False

Ans.: True

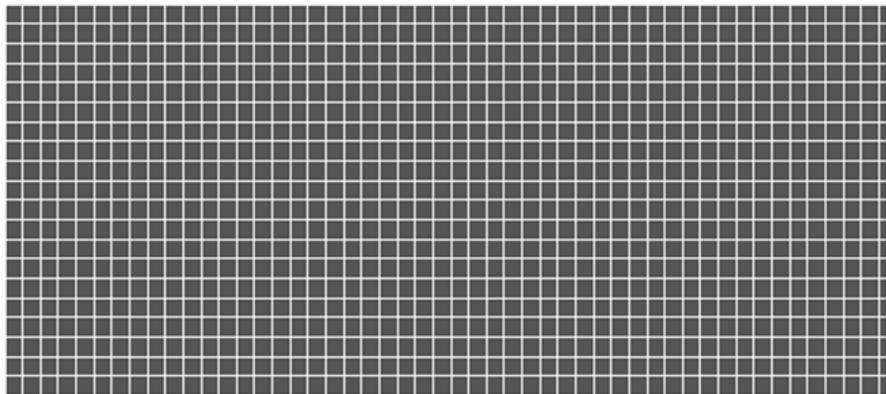
Big numbers, while an entertaining concept like infinity, do not mean much to us mere mortals who are challenged at times just to understand the 3 or so digit personal check books – yep, I still have one (or online digital⁹ bank account statements, I have that to as a back-up).

Visualizing the debt - How much is \$37 trillion dollars? —

If this is 1 billion:



Then this is 1 trillion:



(1000 squares drawn to scale.)

Today's debt is \$36.6 T. That's 36,626 squares!

- Multiple Choice: if Uncle Sam could bring in an extra \$1 billion dollars revenue *every day* (**\$365 billion per year**)– an extra 10% (over and above paying off its normal debt – a balanced budget if you will – yes, a fantasy but it is my story) above its normal \$13.6 billion per day total revenue income (half of which comes from individual income tax returns), how long would it take to pay off the debt?
 1. 10 years
 2. 100 years
 3. 1,000 years

Ans.: 2 - 100 years

- Multiple Choice: Same question as above except the daily debt pay off is \$1 million (**\$365 million per year**) which is easier to understand?

1. 1000 years
2. 10,000 years
3. 100,000 years

Ans.: 3 – 100,000 years

- Multiple Choice: If President Trump's tariff¹⁰ policies became permanent (and assuming effected nations did nothing about it such as their own trade war retaliatory replies and U.S. economy did not collapse), in a perfect world how much of today's \$37 Trillion National Debt (assuming it does not increase) would be reduced in a 10-year period?

1. All of it
2. None of it
3. Half of it
4. \$2.7 (7%) to \$5.2 (14%) Trillion of it
5. Ans.: 4 - \$2.7 (7%) to \$5.2 (14%) Trillion of it

- True or False: The 2025 budget is projected to increase the National Debt by 3.4 Trillion (9%), from \$37 Trillion in 2025 to \$39.4 Trillion in 2034, which is predicted to cause the debt to increase on average at 1% per year, slower pace than the recent past annual increases.
 - True
 - False

Ans.: True

(This is a *financial projection*¹¹ and *not an actual result* – not unlike the accounting game the historical Enron scandal - bankruptcy resulting from accounting fraud and deceptive financial practices - was very good at convincing folks that Enron's financial crystal ball was the truth...and the budget remains an unbalanced budget – more is being spent than what is being brought in).

- True or False: There is much agitation about eliminating health related budget costs associated with **abortion** and the taking of human life in the womb, but it is perfectly ok to authorize budget funds to the military to upgrade and use weapons of mass destruction against human life in a fox hole – even applaud and have parades.

- True
- False

Ans.: True

- True or False: Budget masters inherently understand the natural animal self-interest priority instinct of spending budget funds on survival: eating-shelter-clothing;

- ❖ yet cannot equally rationalize why billions of dollars are wasted on walls¹² and fences and not bridges or roads and
- ❖ intentionally not allocate wall budget funds to help the infirm-elderly-unfortunate (which have been cut to help pay for the wall) or .

- True
- False

Ans.: True



- True or False: Budget masters readily acknowledge the rational benefits of voluntarily buckling up but
 - ❖ cannot rationalize the fact that ALL humans live on spaceship earth,
 - ❖ surrounded by a life sustaining fragile 8-mile-thick spacesuit like atmosphere we ALL depend on – since shared atmospheres do not stop at National borders -
 - ❖ can be easily punctured by any spacesuit occupant voluntary self-inflictive motive (think nuclear incident) – the means,
 - ❖ with the ultimate end game including the possible extinction of human life on mother earth.¹³
 - True
 - False
- Ans.: True
- True or False: Christian oriented budget master values frown on gambling...
 - (not explicitly prohibited in the Bible – after all, lot was used to distribute Jesus’ clothes, before that Jesus was not too happy about money changers operating *inside* religious buildings;
 - in contrast to Moslems, Islam explicitly prohibits – *haram* – gambling – *Qimar* – similar to not allowing ‘interest’ charges for financing, but if the term is changed to read administrative ‘fee’ then, *whalla*. all is ok – an interpretation sleight of hand maneuver),
 - ❖ which is associated with non-Christian/non-Moslem values such as greed, covetousness, harm to oneself and others, profiting wrongfully from a neighbor, not good stewardship –
 - ❖ yet it is perfectly okay to promote cryptocurrency¹⁴ (something easier to electronically trade over the internet than beaver pelts) –
 - ❖ legalized international gambling at its best (interesting that the crypto promoting U.S. President issued his own crypto brand and his family business promoting more crypto¹⁵) since crypto¹⁶...
 - has no underlying asset service or good, only a brand name – just an illusion of wealth (sorta like a pet rock to help grasp the crypto concept – the difference is that the rock is real and crypto is phantom - found in the mystic bogs of Louisiana where the locals assign value by claiming the great Voodoo god himself left its foot print on the rock and hence the brand value creation generated and coveted in the minds of the beholders and owners),
 - does not pay dividends or interest,
 - depends solely on another person willing to pay a higher real money price for the phantom stuff (price determined by assigning the value of crypto to

real currency – an exchange rate if you will, similar to the church money changers – the reason a market exists – some think the price will increase, others it will fall),

- hoping in that pyramid scheme the next trade person has the same greed appetite and coveted aspirations...
- with the ultimate goal of being one of the lucky ones to convert phantom crypto holdings back to fiat or real currency with a profit – buy low sale high sort of thing, backed by a real sovereign nation, and not be the last investor in the rank or pyramid scheme, left holding the empty bag and valueless phantom crypto account.

- True
- False

Ans.: True



- True or False: Elon Musk, since his falling out with the President, the once DOGE of Washington, D.C. (similar to The Doge of Venice¹⁷), then President Trump's head head hunter tasked with cutting waste and corruption in government, cites the 2025 budget bill, would significantly increase the national debt, calling it a "disgusting abomination" that would burden Americans with "crushingly unsustainable debt".

- True
- False

Ans.: True



- True or False: Mr. Musk has toyed with the idea of opposing President Trump by forming a new third national political party.

- True
- False

Ans.: True

- True or False: President Trump's reply– some claim him using the Office of the President as a personal vendetta resource backed by the full faith and credit of America plus its military and department of justice might, has countered he may sic the DOGE hounds upon Mr. Musk's businesses to invoke all sorts of costly upheaval mayhem. [A defense cost to Mr. Musk, but not President Trump, since President Trump uses taxpayers funds – Other People's Money - including those paid by Mr. Musk, and government labour, to fund the President's DOGE hound hunting expenses].

- True

○ False

Ans.: True

- True, False or You Be The Judge: While Mr. Musk makes some good budget insight points shared by other budget savvy analysts, most analysts are guided by following the money principle in life and suspect the pro-oil-coal/pollution – anti-electric car/alternative clean energy components of the 2025 budget, have significant negative impacts upon Mr. Musk’s electric car and battery businesses – hence Mr. Musk’s agitation.

○ True

○ False

○ You Be The Judge

Ans.: You Be The Judge

- True or False: A 77 million for and 75 million against popular 2024 Presidential election vote metric and Congressional passage of the 2025 budget bill – Senate: 51 for and 50 against, House: 218 for and 214 against, do not constitute either a landslide or a mandate decision (maybe *hall pass permission*).

○ True

○ False

Ans.: True

- True or False: The problem with interpreting a budget is like the problem with the Rule of Law in that

❖ the Rule of Law is a problem,

❖ about trying to interpret the intent of the *We The People* elected lawgivers – Congress – what did they mean¹⁸;

❖ with the ultimate interpreters being the Courts – who are charged with dispensing fair justice by being blind to prejudice – what they say is the law is the law (*I AM THE LAW...*unless influenced by authoritarian, monarchial or tyrannical commands – where rule of man would dominate);

❖ since interpretation is determined by human minds, and intent is rarely absolute or clear, interpretation can be either narrowly or broadly defined – which can naturally lead to the risk of mischief (unfair justice whether intentional or not) in the interpretive process – particularly where the *ends justifies the means* is the law implementation weapon of choice – though does little to advance the concept of fair justice¹⁹;

❖ asking the ultimate question: Is the interpretation fair? or absurd, unnatural or tortured?

○ True

○ False

Ans.: True



- True or False: Right along with cutting significant and very impactful funding for environmental and health related programmes, there are inconsequential but big beautiful special interest ‘pork’ budget funding items that can be tucked in the crevices of an 870-page budget bill such as **SEC. 70525. ALLOW FOR PAYMENTS TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO DYE FUEL**²⁰ (similar to particle physicists asking: “*why and who ordered that outlandish menu item?*”; is a good faith audit needed here?)

- True
- False

Ans.: True

- True or False: The 2025 budget:
 - ❖ Terminates most environmental greenhouse emission control/management programmes including many funds allocated to the EPA;
 - ❖ Terminates most electric vehicle and renewable energy promotion programmes;
 - ❖ Enhanced budget for mission to Mars (maybe that is needed to escape from a toxic and unsafe atmosphere);
 - ❖ Enhanced budget for space-based (star wars) galactic defense objectives (\$15 billion and the aerospace contractors thank you for your service);
 - ❖ Terminates pollution tailpipe reduction programmes (not only drill-baby-drill; but pollute-baby-pollute for the sake of profits);
 - ❖ A duplicate tax protected education savings programme named *Trump Accounts*, similar to 529 accounts (unclear why there are two programmes other than another Trump branding initiative);
 - ❖ No tax on tips (somewhat problematic since most likely cash tips are rarely reported so other than a vote getting initiative, does little for the government fisk);
 - ❖ No tax on overtime...somewhat discriminatory since exempt employees are not paid overtime and not subject to work hour caps, another vote getting initiative.

- True
- False

Ans.: True

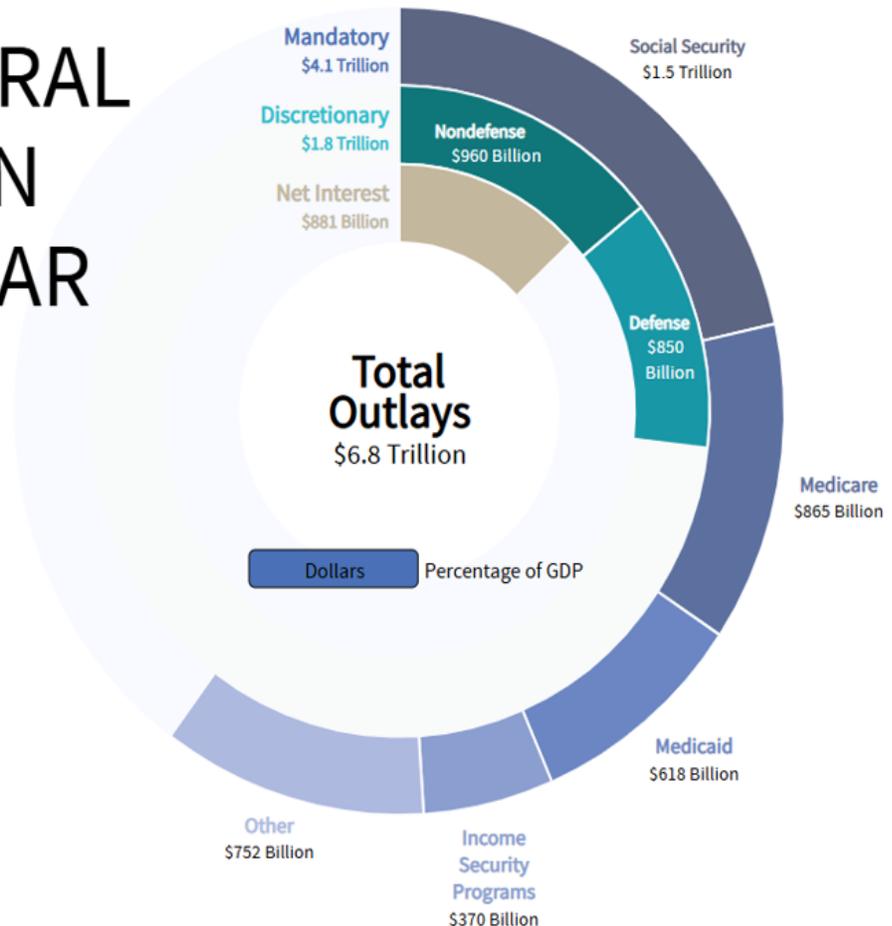
BUDGET MIND NUMBING NUMBER QUESTIONS – A LITTLE BIT OF THE DETAIL

Some inconvenient truth questions

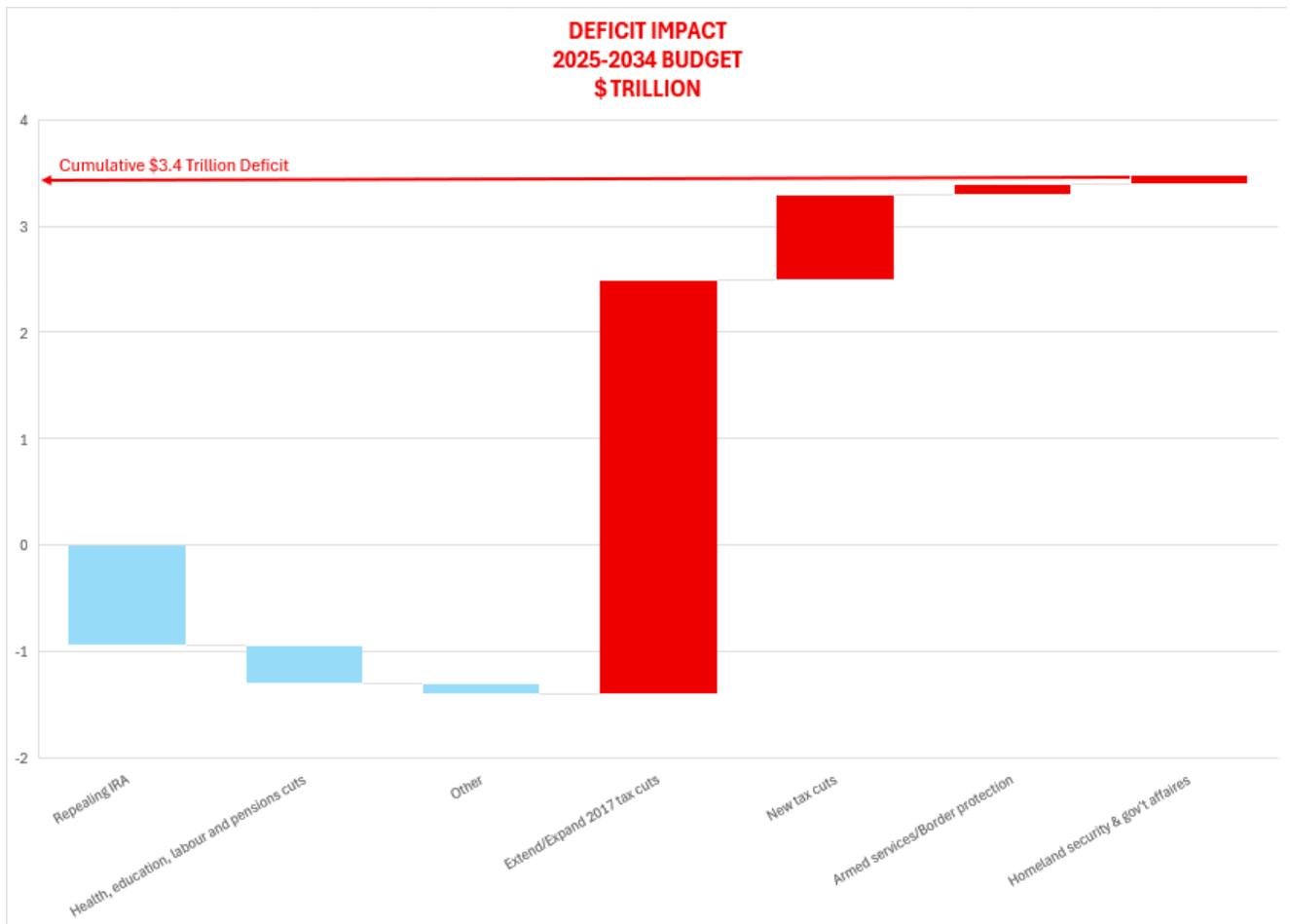
Me and the reader need to spend a little time and swallow *a little* foul-tasting medicine concerning the budget and its published arithmetic mind numbing numbers, to set the stage for the remainder of the quiz. It is okay to skip studying the charts and tables since the bottom-line message is answered in the question.

- True or False: The 2024 budget is primarily spent on social security, health care and defense; the 2025 budget increases defense spending but cuts to health.
 - True
 - False
- Ans.: True

THE FEDERAL BUDGET IN FISCAL YEAR 2024



- True or False: For the 2025 budget...
 - ❖ The National Debt will continue to increase, rising \$3.4Trillion to \$39.4Trillion (2034);
 - ❖ Year-to-year spending for various categories are somewhat consistent;
 - ❖ There are cuts in spending on health, environment, education, clean energy and social services;
 - ❖ There are extended and new tax cuts (reduces revenue to the government) for individuals (mainly the rich) and businesses;
 - ❖ Increased spending on the military and border protection
 - True
 - False
- Ans.: True



BILLIONS, \$							
Program	FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET			FY2025-FY2034 ADJUSTMENTS (Higher If Permanent)	AVERAGE PER BUDGET YEAR ADJUSTMENT, FY2025-FY2034	AVERAGE PER BUDGET YEAR INCLUDING ADJUSTMENT, FY2025-FY2034	COMMENT
	Mandatory	Discretionary	Percent			Percent	
Social Security	\$1,500		22%			\$1,500	21%
Medicare	\$865		13%			\$865	12%
Medicaid	\$618		9%	(\$890)	(\$89)	\$529	7%
Income Security	\$370		5%			\$370	5%
Other	\$752		11%			\$752	10%
Defense/Homeland Security		\$850	13%	(\$144 + \$79) to (\$410 + \$120)	\$75	\$925	13%
Nondefense		\$960	14%			\$1,404	19%
Net Interest	\$881		13%			\$881	12%
FY2025-FY2034 ADJUSTMENTS							
Ways & Means (Tax Cuts/Business Incentives; Judiciary)				\$3752 to \$5204	\$520		
Reduction In Environmental Programmes				(\$196)	(\$20)		
Reduction Education Programmes				(\$349)	(\$35)		
Reduction Agricultural Programmes				(\$238)	(\$24)		
Misc (US Coast Guard Border; Oil Leases Alaska/Offshore; Retirement Cuts; America's Party Fund; Electric Car Cuts; Environmental Research Cuts)				(\$72)	(\$7)		
SUBTOTAL	\$4,986	\$1,810					
TOTAL		\$6,796	100%			\$7,226	100%

HITTING THE WALL BUDGET QUESTIONS

Border control tactics, other than a physical wall barrier, include (i) a virtual surveillance fence (cameras and other alarm sounding electronic trespass detectors) and (ii) physical border patrols (boots on the ground and eyes in the sky – aircraft or drone).

Physical fence barriers are easily understood since Americans have such surrounding their back yards and give them some sense of security.

- The back yard fence built by Latin labour.
- A confession, my younger brother and I may have climbed over the neighbors fence a couple of times at dusk and commandeered a fresh strawberry or two.

History has shown for walls - Berlin, China, Asian Steppes, Alamo - do not work in the long run – and are wastefully costly to build and maintain. In this modern-day high-tech world of star war like laser weaponry and surveillance guided by satellite GPS long range target scoping, do we really need to rely on the ancient concept of walls, once defended by bows, arrows, rocks and spears, as the undocumented immigration deterrent defense weapon of choice?

Some inconvenient truth wall questions :

- Multiple Choice: What is the US.-Mexico border onshore distance?
 1. 500 miles
 2. 800 miles
 3. 1,933 miles (140 – California; 373-Arizona; 180-New México; 1241-Texas)Ans.: 3 - 1,933 miles (140 – California; 373-Arizona; 180-New México; 1241-Texas)
- True or False: Does the American public think a border protection barrier or fence will be built by the President Trump Administration along the entire 1,933-mile land border between the U.S. and Mexico?
 - True
 - FalseAns: True
- True or False: Is the U.S. – Mexico Trump Administration border wall barrier project about upgrading pre-Trump existing walls with very little new wall build?
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: Pre-Trump existing U.S.-Mexico border wall did not effectively prevent entry of undocumented immigrants into the United States?
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- Multiple Choice: How much border protection fence was built between the U.S. and Mexico before the Trump Administrations, therefor not a new Trump idea?
 1. Zero, or 0

2. Approximately 640 miles or 33% of the total border distance (299 vehicle barrier; 350-mile pedestrian barrier); much of the unfenced border has natural barriers such as rivers, deserts and ravines not requiring a fence.

Ans.: 2 - Approximately 640 miles or 33% of the total border distance (299 vehicle barrier; 350-mile pedestrian barrier); much of the unfenced border has natural barriers such as rivers, deserts and ravines not requiring a fence.

- Multiple Choice: How much of President Trump's 2025 budget bill allocation of \$46.5 billion wall budget will be used to build new barrier fences between U.S. and Mexico or upgrade existing fences?

1. All
2. None
3. \$17.3 billion allocated to law enforcement; \$10 billion to Homeland Security border security; \$7.8 billion new boots on the ground border security personnel; \$11.4 billion to virtual fence electronic fence surveillance.

Ans.: 3 - \$17.3 billion allocated to law enforcement; \$10 billion to Homeland Security border security; \$7.8 billion new boots on the ground border security personnel; \$11.4 billion to virtual fence electronic fence surveillance.

- Multiple Choice: What has been the most effective (if not only) method on reducing and deterring entry of undocumented immigrants from the south into the United States?

1. Costly upgrading of existing barrier fence and adding some new minor new fence expansions?
2. Aggressive immigration enforcement laws by ICE agents within the United States?

Ans.: 2 - Aggressive immigration enforcement laws by ICE agents within the United States

- True or False: Should the U.S.-Mexico undocumented anti-immigration pedestrian *new* wall barrier project be renamed the *The Existing Wall Upgrade and Minor Expansion Project*, since the vast majority of the wall project is not about building new walls, but merely upgrading old existing ones built prior to the Trump Administration?

- True
- False

Ans: True

- True or False: Is it good stewardship of public funds to give priority on spending billions on upgrading U.S.-Mexico border fence barriers the cost of which is primarily paid for by reducing health, education and environmental protection expenses or building less expensive highways?

- True
- False

Ans.: False

- True or False: Is it good stewardship of public funds to
 - regularly approve waivers and exemptions of environmental laws and regulations that otherwise protect the environment (the Alaska Alyeska oil pipeline did not benefit from environmental regulation or law exemptions),

- for the sole purpose of advancing the rushed schedule of building of a barrier wall fence –
 - in light of the fact that undocumented immigration entry has been substantially deterred not by a wall but due to ICE aggressive immigration law enforcement tactics?
 - True
 - False
- Ans.: False



Substituted low tech/cost wall
wildlife protection illusion
instead of real law protection.

- Multiple Choice: The primary reason for waiving or exempting border wall building projects from good ecological and human safety stewardship environmental laws and regulations, include:
 1. Border wall construction must take place as soon as possible and its timing is a much higher priority than allowing the delays caused by environmental protection assessments, permitting and mitigation programmes, because without such quick wall installation, delays caused by environmental oversight, will result in an immediate alleged invasion of vast numbers of damaging undocumented immigrants just waiting to rush into America, which is against the interests of America's National Security and public safety objectives.
 2. Even though the primary deterrent of undocumented immigrants entering America is caused by aggressive ICE immigration law enforcement tactics and not because of the presence of a border wall, campaign promises to build a wall at any cost need to be fulfilled and creation of wall building jobs assigned to political supportive contractors, have higher priorities than environmental protection stewardship.

Ans.: 2 - Even though the primary deterrent of undocumented immigrants entering America is caused by aggressive ICE immigration law enforcement tactics and not because of the presence of a border wall, campaign promises to build a wall at any cost need to be fulfilled and creation of wall building jobs assigned to political supportive contractors, have higher priorities than environmental protection stewardship.
- True or False: The budget and accounting reporting for the border barrier wall project by the General Accounting Office and Homeland Security,
 - ❖ is readily available to and easily understood by the public,
 - ❖ which describes the total U.S.-Mexico border distance;

- ❖ number of miles of onshore barrier fencing in place before the Trump Administration and during
- ❖ Quantity in miles and total funds spent on upgrading existing walls and building new ones,
- ❖ broken down by State?
 - True
 - False
 Ans.: False

- The average cost per mile for upgrading or building new barrier fencing between the onshore U.S. and Mexico, is
 1. \$10 million per mile
 2. \$27 million per mile
 3. \$ 45 million per mile (actual Texas cost for new build)
 4. All of the above
 5. None of the above

Ans.: 4 – All of the above (varies with source of information, new build; or upgrade; or converting vehicle barrier to pedestrian barrier).

(At \$20.4 million per mile, the Trump-era wall is about five times more expensive – much due to either cost over-runs or post bid clarification adjustments to costs - than that built during the Bush and Obama administrations; and the wall building contractors thank you for your service).

- True or False: The cost to build a new highway is approximately \$7 to \$15 million per mile (relatively flat terrain), which is substantially cheaper and has greater public benefit than building a border barrier fence.
 - True
 - False
 Ans: True

- Multiple Choice: Should funds allocated to building a border barrier fence where ICE immigration law enforcement tactics (some argue some tactics violate civil rights) are substantially more effective than a wall for deterring entry of undocumented immigrants into the United States, be reallocated to health, education and environmental protection projects, favoring the better interest of the public?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Maybe
4. Don't know
5. Don't care

Ans.: 1 - Yes

ENERGY POLICY BUDGET QUESTIONS

Some inconvenient truth questions

- True or False: The 2025 budget gives almost exclusive priority spending to carbon based depletable non-renewable dirty burning oil, gas and coal energy resources and budget cuts to alternative renewable ‘free’ clean energy (solar, wind, electric vehicles).
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: Every 1.3 seconds, the quantity of clean renewable solar sunshine ‘free’ energy that strikes the earth’s surface is equivalent to a full day of total energy consumption from all carbon energy sources on spaceship earth.²¹ (Wind energy, another form of solar energy).
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: The amount of solar energy striking the earth (not only a drop in a bucket but a drop in all the oceans) is almost negligible compared to the total amount of sunshine energy spewing forth from the sun’s globe in all directions.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: The quantity of free clean renewable sunshine energy that strikes the earth in one day, equates to 180 times that total amount of all energy consumed on spaceship earth in a whole year! (...outer space satellites and other out of this world craft, are powered by solar energy and do not rely on a gasoline or diesel tanker truck flying to outer space to fill up the spacecraft gas tanks).
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: Carbon-based non-renewable unclean oil, gas and coal energy resources are
 - ❖ non-renewable, once used their gone, and none are being naturally made to replace the consumption;
 - ❖ the world’s economies have historically been powered by carbon fuels (even going back when wood was used as the carbon fuel of choice, which graduated to coal, then oil and gas – and to some extent nuclear);
 - ❖ the world’s economies cannot go cold turkey and instantly detach itself from its carbon energy addiction; and
 - ❖ it’s okay to adopt the concept of all things in moderation and balance the energy budget with nonrenewable carbon and alternative renewable energy resources.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True

- Yes, No, Don't Know, Don't Care: From an energy policy perspective, should America
 - ❖ slow down its consumption of its own domestic non-renewable carbon-based energy resource reserves, once used its gone, (less drill-baby-drill policy);
 - ❖ import as much as it can from others (guarding against being too dependent on foreign oil manipulators) who don't need the surplus (as much as the larger American consumer market);
 - ❖ defer using America's non-renewable carbon fuels as much as it can;
 - ❖ limit (if not ban) exports of domestic carbon energy resources;
 - ❖ thereby prolonging surplus non-renewable energy resources for future generations –
 - ❖ allowing the non-renewable carbon-based economy to last longer and continue to lope along; and
 - ❖ complement the non-renewable carbon energy shortfall with readily available renewable endless clean alternative (solar, wind, etc.) energy resources; all things in moderation sort of thing.
 1. Yes
 2. No
 3. Don't Know
 4. Don't Care

Ans.: 1 - Yes

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BUDGET QUESTIONS

Some inconvenient truth questions

- True or False: The algebra used in chemistry to illustrate chemical reactions: $A + B \rightarrow C + D$ means chemical A reacts with chemical B resulting in new chemical C and D, and the process may be energy neutral, or exothermic – gives off heat and feels hot, or endothermic – absorbs heat and feels cold).
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- The algebra of chemistry and chemical reactions occur in our everyday life and are understood by those observing and operating and managing the processes within oil refineries (think making gasoline) or chemical plants (think making plastics) or steel plants (think making steel).
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: Atmospheric chemistry is well understood and affected by the same algebra of chemistry as in all other industries, where
 - carbon dioxide is constantly being pumped into earth's atmosphere from natural sources as well as human fuel and energy hungry consumer inhabitants (a confirmed impact on disrupting the equilibrium of a chemical system),
 - along with dumping other baddies - such as nitrogen oxides, particulates, carbon monoxide, sulfur compounds, chlorinated chemicals, etc. into the atmosphere.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: Many budget masters are in denial about the same chemistry algebra that applies to believed industry processes but then believes the same chemistry algebra does not apply to atmospheric chemistry and associated global warming or loss in ultraviolet radiation protection reactions
 - because the deniers want to believe drill-baby-drill is the only answer to making America great again and
 - earth's spacesuit environment has had natural non-manmade atmospheric turmoil since the dawn of time, and
 - man's constantly dumping it's poop in the air does not cause harm.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: Regardless of one's beliefs about global warming or loss in ultraviolet atmospheric protection being greatly influenced by man's pollution, the algebra of atmospheric chemistry is real.
 - True

○ False

Ans.: True

- True or False: American's naturally seek a good quality healthy life style but readily accept the trade-off of giving priority to profits over spending environmentally related budget funds on preventing health destructive pollution.

○ True

○ False

Ans.: True



- True or False: King coal pollution almost killed the United Kingdom.

○ True

○ False

Ans.: True



- True or False: Carbon-based non-renewable energy resources create more pollution when burned than renewable clean alternative energy (solar and wind).

○ True

○ False

Ans.: True

- True or False: Budget masters naturally depend on the sun rising and setting everyday bathing spaceship earth in an endless supply of life sustaining 'free' sunshine,

- ❖ yet intentionally commit to using depletable – once used its gone – oil, gas and coal carbon energy pollution generating resources²²,
- ❖ once manufactured over millions of years in earth's subsurface kitchen furnaces,
- ❖ expanding unnecessary commercial incentives to the already successful energy eggs in one basket oil industry to drill-baby-drill (even in ecological sensitive areas – once gone are always gone – Why does America have a National Park Service?),
- ❖ while simultaneously cancelling the honorable common sense commercial incentives to complement the quenching of spaceship earth's energy thirst with pollution free alternative clean energy.²³

○ True

- False

Ans.: True
- True or False: Just like in politics...it's the economy stupid...the same thing applies to the environment...it's the pollution stupid.
 - True
 - False

Ans.: True
- True or False: Atmospheric chemistry denial adolescence would be like letting health and medical regulatory decisions being dictated by a non-medical politician. (Sorta like letting an underage student learning how to ride a tricycle being put in charge of commanding a nuclear submarine)
 - True
 - False

Ans.: True

FINANCIAL INCENTIVE BUDGET QUESTIONS

Some inconvenient truth questions

- True or False: The budget promotes certain behaviours by implementing tax or other incentives²⁴, where such incentive promotional schemes encourage behaviour desired for promoting beneficial public interest, national security or safety objectives.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: The budget eliminates many safety and environmental regulations and funding cuts to health and safety related programmes,
 - because such regulations and safety expenses are viewed to cost too much and allegedly detract from American business remaining competitive with others who don't mind the pollution don't spend funds on environmental controls...a programme built on giving priority to profits and creating jobs as being more important than human health and safety.²⁵
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- True or False: It is common for the government to temporarily offer incentives, such as tax credits, grants, rebates or deferral of tax payments, to promote economic activity for the purpose of increasing the wealth and quality of life of its citizens where the public benefits of the incentive outweigh the costs and occasionally a new business needs a little helping hand at start up and when it is up and running and can compete on its own, incentives are terminated.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True
- Yes or No: Does the robust, well developed, financially strong oil and gas industry need government incentives?
 - Yes
 - NoAns.: No
- True or False: The fully developed and commercially sustainable oil and gas industry retains beneficial historical government incentives (not otherwise comparably enjoyed by other industries) associated with:
 - intangible drilling cost deductions; percentage depletion allowance; cost depletion allowance; deduction of tertiary injectates; relaxed amortization period for geological and geophysical costs; Last In First Out Accounting; Section 199 domestic production activities reduction; master limited partnership tax structure; and tax exempt farmouts.
 - True
 - FalseAns.: True

- True or False: The 2025 budget bill not only retains but creates more incentives for the well-developed and sustainable oil (and coal) industry associated with:
 - ❖ relaxed Alaska and offshore permits, some in sensitive ecological areas and relaxed economic burdens (such as relaxed royalty payments);
 - ❖ enhanced intangible drilling cost deduction incentive;
 - ❖ promotes chopping down of government land trees (forest product lumber income profits) that impact atmospheric oxygen replenishment
 - True
 - False

Ans.: True
- True or False or You Be The Judge: Since it makes imminent logical mature sense to develop renewable clean alternative energy (solar, wind, electric) resources to complement the non-renewable carbon industry, it would also make sense to continue with incentives, just like the mature fully developed oil industry incentives, to promote the developing renewable energy industry to achieve competitive commercial status.
 - True
 - False
 - You Be The Judge

Ans.: You Be The Judge

How to score your quiz results.

- Give yourself one point for every answer you agree.
- Give yourself one point for every answer you do not agree.
- Subtract the two results (since there is an odd number of questions, the difference answer cannot be 0).
- If the result is a positive number (greater than 0) or if the result is a negative number (less than 0) it means the test taker has invested some time reading and reflecting on the messages presented in this quiz as I have similarly invested my time reading and reflecting on the Budget Bill and preparing this quiz.
- I respect your opinion as I hope you respect mine. Neither of us do not have to agree with the other.
- My hope is differences of opinion are based on voluntary mature and reasoned reflection and not on unverified gossip or coerced involuntary mandates. It is all about what is right and wrong, not what is red or blue, or left or right. Doing what is right is never wrong.
- The only quiz failure is if folks refuse to honorably and honestly reflect on their beliefs and opinions as well as respect the beliefs and opinions of others (respectively walking in each other's moccasins sort of thing).
- And who knows, maybe one of us will change our views and opinions, based on an informed decision.

ENDNOTES

¹ I haven't brought myself to feel comfortable using the theatric term '*Big Beautiful Bill*', as to me it cheapens the context of that very important Congressional legislation. Sorta like naming *the Declaration of Independence*, the *Kick Ass Resolve*.

² ***I once was interviewed by my employer sponsored counselor helping me to understand who I am. One of those many touchy feely exercises that is supposed to make me a more productive employee. On conclusion, the counselor inquired what I thought about him. I replied you are very good at what you do! His surprised reply how could I say that since I really did not know him.? Answer: he had so thoroughly pissed me off in a short period of time since he was craftily able to dig deep into my being and rationally challenged many of my belief misconceptions that I felt threatened...even though he (just happened to be a he male but equally could have been a she female – in the classic genre sense) was right. The purpose of this parable (not meant to be spiritual) is that should the reader become equally agitated from my quiz, I hope the reader reflects on the moment in the context of just widening the mark of understanding for both of us and not meant to be a personal attack. I figure that is part of being respectful toward each other.***

³ Self-research means just that...spending my time and energy to seek understanding and knowledge and attempts at filtering out misinformation and, lord forbid, letting others do the thinking for me. Father knows best. Not easy things to do in this age of driverless cars 'cause there is more important things to do than buckling up and leave the driving to soulless electrons, instant same day gratification thanks to Amazon and its profit driven compliance with *if it feels good do it* get it today market demands, and value and truth placed in social media gossip more-so than scholarly research - "*It must be true, I read it on the internet*" sort of thing.

⁴ I would say *scared* instead of *concerned*, but since I have kids and grandkids, nothing scares me anymore.

⁵ Candidly this *ends justifies the means* message is like playing the game of chicken...somebody could get hurt if not killed depending on the bravery or stupidity of the participants – which I don't have too much difficulty accepting, except in the case where I am being forced to participate in the chicken experiment.

⁶ Happy to send my discussion paper upon request , with cited authority, why government is not a business.

⁷ An additional disclaimer, I possess a license in Texas allowing me to openly carry a firearm – which I don't do at my election (an optional license since one can carry a concealed gun in Texas without a license – need to be tested and hold a license to drive a car but no such constraints to carry a lethal weapon – it's a Texas thing). My drivers for having such license are not to demonstrate my manliness or immaturely displaying a fancy holster for all the world to see, but to confirm (to myself, law enforcement and the world), aside from Constitutional rights, I have been independently tested to understand gun laws and I know how to safely operate a gun. For the avoidance of doubt, I am ok with modest gun control (and I don't mean steady aim) regarding back-ground checks, timing when weapon is delivered (allow hot head thinking to cool down), machine gun restrictions and other common-sense advisories – which have nothing to do with the 2nd Amendment rights or Founding Father aspirations. And I get the interpretation arguments of what is the intent of the law and a concern if an inch is given up then a mile will be taken – sure it didn't say I couldn't carry a bazooka in the mall, but what tha' hec' (I have a discussion paper on law interpretation if any are interested in that). Just like freedom of speech, it is not an unbridled discretion as you can't yell 'fire' in a darkened crowded cinema when there is no fire.

⁸ Keep in mind regarding estimates, there are liars, damn liars, statisticians and then politicians (much to do with either they know they don't know – the more honorable confession, or worse they don't know what they don't know).

⁹ Digital technology (the ones and zeros of the binary computer system with LED lit electronic number TV like displays) means something that a hacker or scammer can attack and infect with an electronic virus. If we could only revert to the good old analog days (display information by a meter possessing a physical pointer dial like hand similar to a pocket watch, pointing to a range of numbers printed on the meter face), which would avoid all that digital hacking mischief.

¹⁰ Upon request I will gladly send you my discussion paper about tariffs and why it is a tax that hurts the consumer and the poor and should only be used in limited and temporary circumstances.

¹¹ Keep in mind regarding estimates, there are liars, damn liars, statisticians and then politicians (much to do with either they know they don't know – the more honorable confession, or worse they don't know what they don't know).

¹² History has shown walls -Berlin, China, Asian Steppes, Alamo, all come to mind, not only don't work – but are wastefully costly to build and maintain. Funny, in this high-tech world of star war like laser weaponry guided by GPS long range target scoping, we rely on the ancient concept of walls defended by bows, arrows, rocks and spears, as our amygdala survival defense of choice. I guess using Mexican labour to help build the wall could create jobs, so in some respects, a sorta good or at least non-lethal thing.

¹³ Chernobyl Russian nuclear power plant accident came close to advancing human extinction on mother earth – my fear is if nuclear technology is misused or abused (and not used for civil use) for mass destruction weapon purposes which is capable of extinguishing human life on earth. Don't get me wrong...I am all for using nuclear power (what us engineers do and thrive on applications) as part of a balanced energy policy – its peaceful use, but against the abuse and misuse for human death military objectives.

¹⁴ Crypto regulations are very relaxed, a forum for illegal money laundering to successfully take place or punishment free extortion payments. Thanks to Blockchain technology (which has merit) the decentralized crypto business application and riding on the back of Blockchain, has dodged the security of middleman bank regulators – in the name of decentralized independence from financial safety valves - and capable of promoting illegal practices – illegal in the sense of intentionally cheating and damaging a person for pure profit by another. If one loses by the voluntary fair roll of the cryptocurrency dice – then so be it...just hope the gamer appreciates and has some aspect of understanding the risk they are taking...other than a quick get rich game. (Thus, in the security business, there is a lot of regulatory public disclosure requirements to assist the gamer with understanding their informed risk undertaking – advertising puffing is ok – 'best cup of coffee in the world' - but not when it crosses the line of insider trading or deceptive misrepresentations or omissions).

¹⁵ Sorta like investing in autographed cryptocoin bronze tokens – the branded investment - of President Trump. PT Barnum, the world's second greatest showman and circus barker, had it right, there is a sucker born every minute.

¹⁶ In the early days, the investment houses were skeptical about crypto, not knowing of legal or criminal implications associated with regulatory concerns – is it a security or not needing SEC public protection oversight – but now, not only promoted by the President since he has his own crypto brand – but a component of the investment housing offerings since they now view the investment free from criminal and legal sanctions and a way to make a lot of money from crypto trade commission fees. Always follow the money to find the truth or at least an excuse – whether or not it has a moral compass associated with it.

¹⁷ Doge of Venice –the highest role – having both religious and layman like characteristics - of authority within the medieval Republic of Venice. Sanctioned with civil and military like authority. A Pope like position except has also access to military grade enforcement authority.

¹⁸ Happy upon request to send my discussion paper on how laws are interpreted, backed up with cited authority.

¹⁹ Fair Justice: right to liberties and freedoms, and equality of opportunity

²⁰ Wow...one of the most extreme special fixes for a very small special interest...that smacks of some politician holding out their vote for almost extortion drivers for a very myopic purpose. Shame on the other legislators who bowed down to this extreme special interest result.

²¹ Happy to send upon request a copy of my solar energy technical paper that discusses with energy facts the exciting world of sunshine energy. Don't get me wrong, I am not against the carbon business – oil and coal and even nuclear, since the oil business paid for my children's education and is now funding my retirement plans. But I believe in all things in moderation and promote a balanced carbon – clean energy policy.

²² Interesting that transporting America's waste (or 'sh _ _') to another country has become a commercial adventure. Thank you Malaysia for accepting, for a fee, America's plastic waste. Where is that plastic going? Recycled into more plastic products or recycled in the sea? There oughta' be a law or at least auditable compliance.

²³ BTY - Wind alternative energy is just another form of solar energy; and blackened sooty and lung damaging skies existed in London at one time because of King Coal – much before EPA.

²⁴ Happy to send a discussion paper on incentives, that also addresses solar and oil and gas schemes.

²⁵ I don't think *We The People* elected budget master's to put profits ahead of health and safety. Regardless of government safety and health policies, I think honorable industries promote their own volunteer safe and healthy work environment because it is good business...cost aside, since it offsets more costly liability claims, loss productivity and impact on good will. I am unaware of any business that would brag about intentionally causing an employee to suffer an injury on public display in New York's Times Square, and the sidewalk pedestrian's applauding the event. (see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTACH1eVlaA>; doesn't make sense to this grandpa-retiree)