

# Let's Tear Up the Blank Check!

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Let's go back about 20 years to the time when Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch was brand new. And let's suppose that Michael has just hired you to manage the development and operation of the ranch.

Naturally, you ask Michael what your budget will be, and what does he say? Michael goes to his desk, tears a check from his check book, fills it out, signs it, and hands it to you. You look at the check, and you're amazed: Michael has written you a blank check!

Now what will you do? Well, what would anyone do with a blank check to use in managing the development and operation of Neverland Ranch — or of any other enterprise? We all know what they would do: they would find an endless number of things to spend money on, and they would find good reasons for spending all of that money!

***THIS is exactly the situation of the United States government, for in ratifying the constitution, the American people signed a blank check payable to the United States government, as shown in this poster. This is the reason for the unrestrained growth of government.***

The American People Everytown, USA	1
	<u>Date of ratification</u>
Pay to the order of <u>The United States Government</u>	\$ <input type="text"/>
	Dollars
	<u>The American People</u>

The framers of the constitution, no doubt, thought that if we, the people, are electing the members of Congress, then we must have sufficient control of our government. But, it turns out, representative government actually contains incentives for the representatives to drive up the size and cost of government without limit. Why? Because each legislator wants to bring home the bacon to their constituents — each legislator wants to bring home federal revenue to their constituents — ***and there is no limit to this endeavor because the American people signed a blank check payable to the government!*** This is exemplified by the practice of congressional earmarks, a practice that John McCain has ardently opposed, as he emphasized during his run for the presidency last year.

***So what do we need to do? WE NEED TO TEAR UP THAT BLANK CHECK!*** [Tear up poster of blank check.] ***We need to tear up the blank check and replace it with a check that establishes a ceiling on government income.*** How can we do this?

We need a constitutional amendment, which I call *The People's Amendment*. This amendment establishes a ceiling on government income and gives the people control of the ceiling, as shown in my next poster.

<b>The American People</b>	<b>2</b>
Everytown, USA	<u>Date of popular vote</u>
<b>Pay to the</b>	
order of <u>The United States Government</u>	XX % of GDP
	XX % of GDP
	<u>The American People</u>

The ceiling is expressed as a fraction of the size of the economy, or GDP, so that government can grow with the economy. However, there is no objective value for what the fraction should be, and I envision that the people will reduce the fraction gradually over time, making it smaller and smaller and smaller. This will compel the government to be ever more efficient in its operations and to delegate as many activities as possible to the private sector, where they will benefit from the incentives of competition.

In everyday terms, The People's Amendment says that the government must live within its means, and those means will be determined, **NOT BY THE GOVERNMENT, BUT BY THE PEOPLE, BECAUSE THE PEOPLE FOOT THE BILL!**

So how do we get a constitutional amendment approved? We follow the example of the women suffrage movement by establishing a grassroots movement in support of the amendment.

But a movement takes time to develop, and an amendment takes time to get approved — first by Congress and then by the states. So we're talking about a movement that won't see payback for years to come, right?

**Wrong! We're talking about a movement that should see payback by stopping the Obamacrats in their tracks THIS FALL!** Well, how can that be if the amendment hasn't even been approved by then?

Remember the handwriting on the wall? As we all know, the handwriting on the wall can scare the living day-lights out of you!

In *The People's Movement*, we're talking about a **massive bipartisan grassroots movement** in favor of *The People's Amendment*. **We're talking about a rising TIDAL WAVE of grassroots support in favor of POWER FOR THE PEOPLE, and POWER FOR THE PEOPLE is the central theme of democracy, so it is a bipartisan theme.**

**So what will stop the Obamacrats in their tracks is a TIDAL WAVE of the people who want to tear up the blank check and replace it with this check** [indicate poster on stand], because this check puts a ceiling on government income and gives the people control of the ceiling. **What will stop the Obamacrats in their tracks is a tidal wave of the people who want THE PEOPLE to control how much money the government can take from them.**

**This tidal wave movement of the people will be the handwriting on the wall for the Obamacrats this fall. And this movement, if properly led, will become the greatest grassroots political movement in American history.**