

We negate Resolved: The United States federal government should prioritize reducing the federal debt over promoting economic growth.

Our First Contention is devastating Small Businesses.

In order to reduce the debt, with the current political climate, politicians would use Top Down tax hikes that target the rich.

Unfortunately, these taxes devastate small businesses.

[Rich of Forbes in 2012](#) finds that even though the top tier of the US only accounts for 3.5% of total taxpayers, they account for 53% of all small business income in the US.

This is why the [The NFIB in 2013](#) empirically concludes that Obama's proposed tax increases in 2012 would have decreased economic productivity by \$200 billion dollars and wages by 1.8%, and led to the loss of 710,000 jobs.

Contention Two is drastic measures.

In addition to spending cuts, the government would always implement dramatic cuts in spending. This manifests in two key sectors.

The first is cutting domestic spending through Sequestration.

When politicians need to reduce debt, but cannot agree on what to cut, Sequestration measures come in place. Sequestration measures are across the board cuts in spending.

The [New York Times in 2013](#) finds that the latest sequester measures were set to cut 85 billion dollars from the US federal budget cutting significant funding to things such as medicare and crucial relief programs.

The impact is clear. These cuts in crucial areas impacted the poor the hardest, as [Friedman of the Guardian in 2013](#) writes that 80% of the cuts in the sequestration in 2013 came from discretionary spending, which provides low income families with crucial aid and support, pushing millions into poverty.

The Second is through cutting Foreign Aid.

Affirming would lead to dramatic cuts in Foreign Aid for two key reasons.

First is because of the Magical Wonderland inside President Trump's head.

[The Washington Post in 2017](#) writes that Trump's perception of the Foreign Aid issue is that it contributes trillions of dollars to the National Debt. As a result, [The Guardian in 2017](#) writes that Trump is proposing a 32% cut in the current Foreign Aid Budget.

Trump is already making moves towards this, as a [Politico Article in 2018](#) writes that the Trump Administration is attempting to take back 3 billion dollars in Foreign Aid that was previously assigned. Affirming gives the Trump Administration the necessary political will to continue on their path of destruction.

Second is because of historical precedent.

The last time we attempted to reduce the federal debt was in 2013, when we attempted to rein in spending heavily. Unfortunately, [US News in 2013](#) writes that the Budget to reduce the deficit cut 50 billion dollars in Foreign Aid over the next decade.

Considering that this budget was approved with bipartisan support, with the new divided government, Foreign aid cuts would likely continue under the new government.

The Impact to Foreign Aid is improving the lives of those around the world.

[The Global Citizen in 2017](#) concludes writing that US Foreign Aid has literally benefited billions of lives around the world, and helped lift millions out of poverty.

Contention three is Infrastructure.

In the status quo America's infrastructure is rapidly aging and deteriorating.

[The Conversation in 2017](#) furthers that even though the US is high in infrastructure development, it is falling behind other developing countries in terms of resiliency and sustainability, concluding the US must increase infrastructure investment by over 2 trillion dollars over the next 10 years in order to combat these problems.

Fortunately a solution is coming soon.

[Mann of the Wall Street Journal in 2018](#) writes that Trump is making huge concessions to the Dems by increasing federal funding for the bill in order to gain their support, concluding that there are many signs favoring a deal happening.

The [TN](#) in 2019 reports that even with the government shutdown and the wall, infrastructure remains extremely bipartisan, with top Democrats, Republicans, and Trump have all expressed their willingness to work together on a comprehensive bill for funding.

Progress has already been made. The [SEJ in 2019](#) finds that Trump has recently signed into a existence a new bipartisan green infrastructure bill that upgrades degrading water systems.

However, by affirming, the US government is forced to prioritize the rising debt over economic growth and stop any infrastructure bill that would likely raise the deficit.

This is crucial as rotting infrastructure is destroying America.

[Mccarty of Forbes in 2017](#) that if funding gaps in infrastructure aren't filled the US will lose over 4 trillion in GDP and over 2.5 million jobs by 2025.

Furthermore, [Rouda of the Hill](#) last month furthers without increased infrastructure funding, every US household will lose \$3,400 annually due to infrastructure deficiencies, pushing millions into poverty.

Now, is the time to act. Thus, we negate.

Add in:

<https://www.sej.org/headlines/trump-signs-green-water-infrastructure-bill>