

SENIOR VOICE

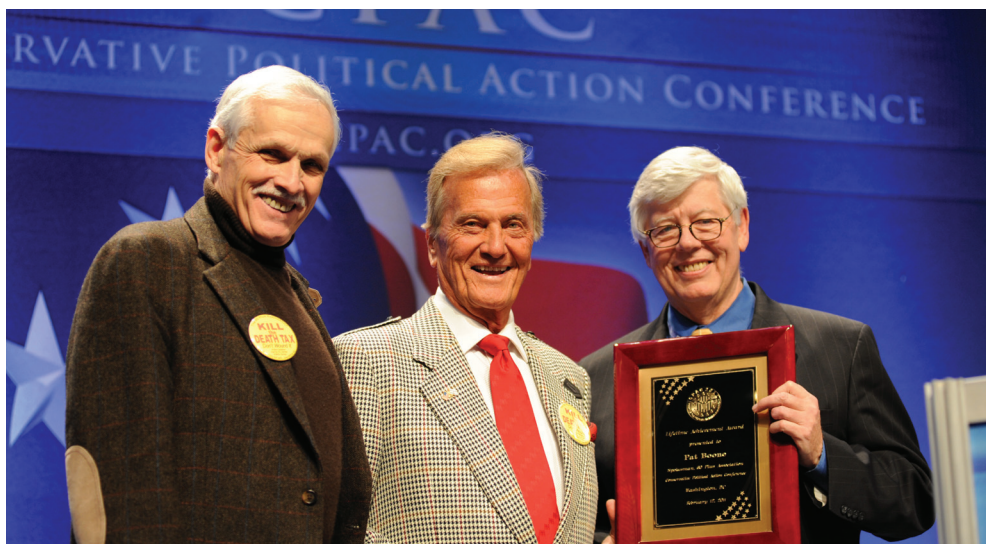
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Pat Boone Honored for Defending Liberty



60 Plus Chairman Jim Martin and American Conservative Union President David Keene present Pat Boone with CPAC's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Legendary Entertainer and 60 Plus Association National Spokesman Pat Boone has earned enough awards and accolades in the entertainment field for movies and acting to fill several lifetimes.

But this year, it was his lifetime of civic activism and devotion to the founding principles of our nation that earned Boone a Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Washington, DC.

Many know that Boone is one of the few islands of political conservatism in the vast liberal sea of Hollywood. But few know how long and how passionately he has been supporting issues and candidates behind the scenes despite the pressure of his industry to do otherwise.

Of the CPAC Lifetime Achievement Award Boone joked, "It surprises me because my lifetime is still in progress," adding, "I'll treasure this more than any Academy or Grammy

Award, or anything the entertainment industry could offer me."

Boone has swam against the liberal tide in the entertainment industry for decades, frequently offering help to local conservative candidates in California, supporting Presidents Nixon and Ford, and serving as a delegate for Ronald Reagan at the 1976 GOP convention in Kansas City.

He also raised eyebrows in 2010 – and spirits among many conservatives nationwide – when he and his neighbor hosted the first and only Beverly Hills tea party.

Boone writes and speaks frequently on political issues, often quietly, away from

the spotlight. "I am a conservative, always have been and will be till I die. And beyond..."

"A conservative hallows the Constitution, which laid out and prescribes the simple system we call democracy, which, according to our Declaration of Independence, credits our Creator with the equal rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, not the governmentally provided happiness itself."

Today Boone hangs his hat with the 60 Plus Association, advocating for seniors and their families by speaking out on issues such as repealing ObamaCare, abolishing the Death Tax, and offering support to conservative candidates. As just one example, dozens of freshmen Congressmen have expressed gratitude to Boone for his role this past November in helping them cement victory with his targeted messages to senior voters. (Boone's voice entered the homes of the 7.1 million seniors who support 60 Plus.)

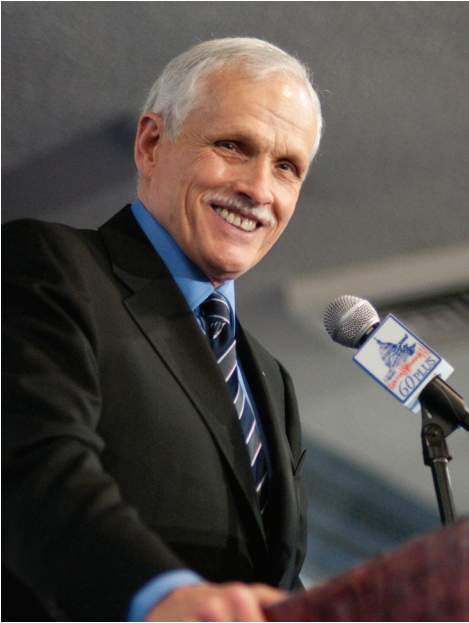
Congratulations Pat, upon recognition for your leadership and heartfelt commitment to America's enduring principles. You continue to entertain, but most importantly, you continue to inspire and make a lasting difference.

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Ending the federal estate (death) tax for seniors and saving Social Security for the next generation

Chairman's Corner



By Jim Martin
Chairman of the 60 Plus Association

More than 17,000 women with late-stage breast cancer rely on a drug called Avastin to extend and save their lives. But the drug may be taken away as a treatment option for most doctors and patients if the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has its way. Such a decision would bankrupt families, create a two-tier health care system in the United States, and literally kill women and seniors who are denied access to the drug. The stakes could not be higher.

Avastin is the first FDA-approved therapy designed to stop the process by which blood vessels feed cancer tumors. It has become a valuable treatment option for doctors and patients. Peter Pitts, a former FDA commissioner, has pointed out that “a clinical trial that took place from December 2001 to May 2004 found that Avastin boosted the amount of time that breast cancer patients lived without the disease spreading or worsening.

The drug, in combination with chemotherapy, delayed tumor growth for about 11 months, which was more than five months longer than chemo alone. Follow-up studies indicated a

Congress Must Halt Travesty Against Breast Cancer Patients

less robust response, yet still found an average delay in tumor growth of between one and three months.” Eric Winer, Director of the Breast Oncology Center at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, said, “There is almost certainly a group of women who get a big benefit.”

But now the FDA, by proposing to “de-label” Avastin, is pulling the rug out from under cancer patients. De-labeling the drug is the bureaucratic process that essentially keeps the drug on the market but requires patients to pay for the drug out of their own pockets. Once a drug is de-labeled, Medicare and private insurance companies will no longer cover the drug for treatment.

This is a critical distinction. The FDA apparently believes the drug is plenty safe for those patients who can afford to pay the \$90,000 a year out of pocket and thus continue to receive its benefits. It’s just those who rely on insurance or Medicare that are out of luck. Families would be faced with the horrifying choice of ending treatment or going bankrupt. If the FDA is successful in de-labeling the drug, it will create a two-tier health care system – one for the rich and one for everyone else. So it is evident that the FDA’s actions are based on one simple factor – cost.

That’s because we live in the era of Obama-Care, in which the government has been told it must “bend the cost curve” of health care downward. The government has one tool in its arsenal to accomplish that goal – rationing of care and treatments for the sick and elderly – and the FDA has taken up the crusade.

The danger of that precedent cannot be understated. Avastin will be the first, but certainly not the only, drug that will be de-labeled. If the decision stands, more and more patients will be denied access to critical drugs and treatments as a way to save money.

And of course, seniors, who by the simple fact of being older require more medical services, will take the biggest hit. It already happens in Great Britain, and now it is happening here.

Patient groups, seniors groups, doctors, and breast cancer patients are protesting the decision but are running up against a bureaucratic wall. Patients Christi Turnage and Patricia Howard are typical of the “super responders” – who have lived for years because of Avastin – and are aghast at the prospect of losing insurance coverage for the drug. Turnage has started an online petition to the FDA that has more than 10,000 signatures. Howard reports that infusions of Avastin every three weeks over the past two years have shrunk tumors in the lining of her lung and eliminated fluid that hampered her breathing. Now she enjoys shopping and golf, and describes her life as “beyond fabulous.”

Life won’t be fabulous for Howard and millions more Americans if the FDA’s precedent-setting actions are allowed to stand. Congress must ensure that the drug is not taken away from patients and their doctors. We cannot allow government to deny patients the treatment options they desperately need. We cannot turn America’s health care system into a version of the British health care system, in which treatments are routinely rationed because of their costs.

If Congress does not act soon, which Member will be willing to step forward and explain why it didn’t to Christie Turnage, Patricia Howard, and thousands of others like them?

Mr. Martin is Chairman of the 60 Plus Association. He formed it in 1992 as a non-partisan seniors’ advocacy group with a free-enterprise, limited government, lower taxes mission and a strict adherence to the Constitution.

Unhappy Anniversary: 2 Years of Obama's 'Stimulus'

Earlier this year marked a dubious anniversary of sorts, it has been two years since President Obama pushed through his \$870 billion 'stimulus' plan he promised would kick start the American economy and ensure that unemployment wouldn't go above 8 percent.

Instead, our economy and financial markets are as weak as they were two years ago, and the unemployment rate was over 9 percent for 21 straight months, shattering a record not seen since the Great Depression.

We sure got our money's worth.

On top of this, Obama unveiled his 2012 FY budget, which predictably set new records of spending and adds another \$1.6 trillion to our national debt. Can someone in the White House just fess up and admit that no one in there has a clue as to what they're doing?

Said 60 Plus Chairman Jim Martin on Obama's refusal to take his foot off the spending accelerator, "In the aftermath of massive voter rejection of his philosophy, the President is to be admired for sticking to his big government, big spending ways. The words changed, instead of spending, the President now proposes to invest taxpayers' money. Sort of a semantic cesspool in politicalese."

"It's the same song he sang in 2008 when campaigning. But his 2008 rhetoric ran smack into 2010 reality. The same outcome is shaping up for 2012 unless voters are listened to more closely, specifically the elderly who are still on the march."

60 Plus remains committed to fighting the President's continued deficit spending, and is firmly behind Congressman Sean Duffy's (R-WI) bill that would return all stimulus funds that have yet to be spent or distributed. We urge everyone to visit and join tens of thousands of fellow patriots who have already signed the 'Peoples' Petition' to stop the



further flushing of taxpayer money down the drain.

Said Martin, "Most Americans know you can't tax and spend your way to prosperity. The 'stimulus' plan made our economy worse and remains the sticking point for government to get out of the way and let the American worker and free market system pull us out of this recession. So long as government spending is gobbling up resources and creating debt, our economy will never get out of Obama's ditch, let alone fire on all cylinders."

Let's continue to fight together to make sure the 'Stimulus' does not have a 3rd anniversary, and by visiting www.DefundTheStimulus.com join with the efforts of nearly a dozen of smaller-government-is-better-government organizations.

White House Abandons Entitlement Reform, GOP Picks Up Baton

Despite the fact that candidate Obama promised that he would make the "hard choices" on entitlement reform, President Obama has continued to pass the buck, offering up a new budget to Congress that says nary a word on saving Social Security and Medicare from insolvency.

If anything, the President has made entitlements much weaker with his massive deficit spending, as this will put added pressure on Congress to trim programs for seniors even more, in order to fund his programs and pay interest on our debt.

Because of decades of embezzlement on the part of Congress, Social Security now runs in the red, even though it has produced \$2.5 trillion in surpluses to the Treasury since the 1960s.

Leadership has come in the form of House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan

(R-WI), who is proposing Medicare reform that will put our nation on a path to balanced budgets, while protecting today's seniors' Medicare and giving future generations free market options.

While no plan is perfect, Ryan's plan is a good starting point, and his leadership on the issue is a far cry from the hypocrisy and abdication on the issue from the President, who would prefer to score political points rather than protect America's seniors. Said 60 Plus President Amy Frederick, "Seniors and seniors-to-be have much to lose if Medicare is not reformed and is instead cut to pave the way for a much, much bigger entitlement program. The Ryan Roadmap to Medicare solvency is the right course that protects America's seniors and ensures there is a Medicare program still in place for future generations."

2011 Resolution – Repeal ObamaCare

We all remember the outrageous statement of former Speaker Nancy Pelosi when she said of Obama's health care legislation, "we have to pass the bill so you can find out what is in it."



Well, last year the Democrat-controlled Congress passed ObamaCare, and every day we learn a little bit more about exactly what is in this bill. So far, it has turned out to be as welcome as a ticking box under the Christmas tree.

The best way to get an accurate picture of just what this bill entails is to take one of the many promises the Democrats made about the bill, then just assume the opposite.

For example, they said the bill was needed to lower U.S. health care costs, with President Obama saying, "if any bill arrives from Congress that is not controlling costs, that is not a bill I can support. It's going to have to control costs."

But costs are already skyrocketing from ObamaCare, more than \$300 billion over the next 10 years. And according to the Congressional Budget Office, the average premium for a family of four will increase \$2,100 per year.

We were told that seniors could keep their doctor, but they are already losing coverage and personal physicians through a myriad of effects of ObamaCare. For example, the popu-

lar Medicare Advantage program will lose seven million members who will be unable to continue in the program, with remaining members paying higher monthly premiums.

Add to this the thousands of doctors who will now hasten their exit from the profession – with 74% expressing a desire to do so by one survey – and you can see we are far from "wider access to health care for all."

To be honest, we did not actually need to pass this bill to see what was in it, as a bill very similar to ObamaCare was passed in Massachusetts a few years ago with similar promises to cut costs and increase coverage.

The result? Costs have surged over 50% and all problems from crowded emergency rooms have grown progressively worse.

This abysmal record is why the new Republican Congressional majority has put repealing ObamaCare at the top of their legislative priorities, even though there will be certain roadblocks to completely eliminate the legislation with Democrats controlling the Senate and White House.

President Should Suspend the Unconstitutional ObamaCare Now

If ObamaCare were a person, it would have the kind of face only a mother could love. And even that may be a stretch.

Obama promised his legislation would be "one of the biggest deficit-reduction programs in history" but it, in fact, is adding more than \$562 billion to our national debt over 10 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Democrats promised Americans that ObamaCare would "lower costs for every patient," but patient premiums are not only rising, they are rising faster than ever before in an attempt to comply with all the new government mandates.

You get the point. Just about every claim Obama made in order to pass this Edsel of a bill has already been proven false. It will strengthen Medicare? Nope, it cuts over \$500 billion from Medicare and half of Medicare Advantage patients will lose coverage by 2017.

It won't cause people to lose coverage or promote rationing? Oops, wrong again, rationing is starting with a vengeance.

Now on top of all the broken promises, a second federal judge has ruled that ObamaCare is unconstitutional for compelling American citizens to purchase health care or face criminal prosecution, a demand beyond the government's constitutional authority.

Late last year a federal judge in Virginia ruled the same, guaranteeing the issue will be taken up by the Supreme Court. 60 Plus Chairman Jim Martin is speaking out in the media, joining others urging the Administration to suspend ObamaCare until the issue is settled.

Said Martin, "States and private businesses now have no clue what to do with so much uncertainty surrounding ObamaCare. It will be extremely costly to start implementing it only to have it declared unconstitutional and dismantled by the Court."

(continued on page 5)

OBAMACARE BOMBHELL: Billions of Funding Hidden in Legislation

If President Obama's talent for hiding government spending deep inside of legislation is translated to his other activities, then at this year's annual White House Easter egg hunt the children poking around on the White House lawn seeking the colored ovals don't stand a chance.

Recently unearthed by Reps. Michele Bachmann (R-MN) and Steve King (R-IA) is over \$105 billion of spending authorization hidden deep in the ObamaCare legislation.

Said Bachmann, "This is a crime against democracy. No one knew that Harry Reid, Pelosi and Obama put \$105 billion in spending in the bill. ... This is a bombshell."

Obama, former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), and Senate Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) apparently hid billions in appropriations throughout the bill from not only their Congressional colleagues, but from the American people and the media, specifically for the purpose of ensuring that no matter what, ObamaCare would receive the funding it needs to be enacted.

Noting that legislation rarely if ever contains actual funding when it is enacted, former Rep.

Ernest Istook (R-OK) points out, "ObamaCare strips the authority of current and future Congresses to make funding decisions... It takes eight pages for CRS (Congressional Research Service) simply to list the provisions that seek to bypass the normal appropriations process.

Now we understand what Pelosi meant when she famously said during debate, "We have to pass the bill so that you can find out what is in it." Unfortunately the President and Democrat leadership don't trust the American people to deliberate on legislation which will have a dramatic effect on their lives, and believe the only way they can get their ideas passed is to hide them, deceive the public as to their contents, and rush them through.

News of the hidden funding comes as President Obama's Health and Human Services Secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, is granting over 1,000 waivers to insurance providers who can not comply with the legislation's requirements, highlighting even more shortcomings and flaws in ObamaCare.



For these and all of the other reasons 60 Plus has spelled out over the past 18 months, we will not rest until this legislation is defunded and repealed.

Democrats Double-Down on Disaster, Affirm Vote on ObamaCare

Despite polls showing that Americans were overwhelmingly against the passage of ObamaCare, and are overwhelmingly in favor of its repeal, the U.S. Senate last month refused to repeal this terribly unpopular and fraudulent legislation.

According to a Rasmussen poll, 63% support repeal of this government-run health care law, yet every Democrat Senator – even the so called 'moderates' – went along with reaffirming their original vote in favor of ObamaCare despite the increasing tidal wave against it. (Some of them will be looking for a new line of work come election day 2012.)

And despite Obama's promise on June 9, 2008 that he would "bring down premiums by \$2,500 for the typical family..." even the *New York Times* notes that reality is just the opposite, with premiums heading through the roof, and quality and availability of health care falling at an alarming rate.

More than one commentator has pointed out that, just as in last year's November mid-term elections, politicians siding in favor of ObamaCare are printing a one-way ticket home from Washington. Popular sentiment to vote against pro-ObamaCare Congressmen will be in full force in 2012.

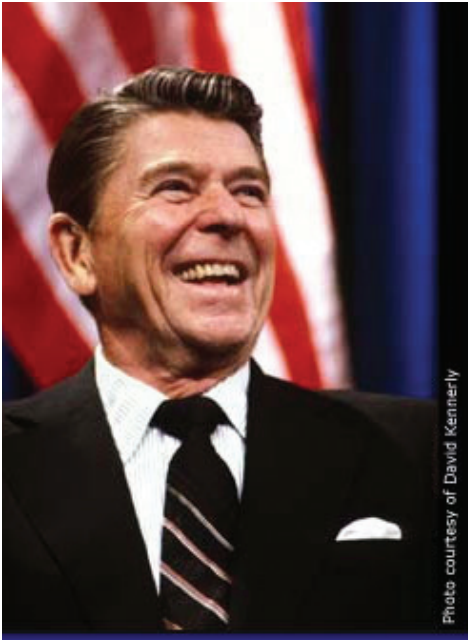
President Should Suspend ObamaCare (continued from page 4)

"The physician's maxim is 'first do no harm,' and moving forward on expensive health care legislation only to backtrack will cause tremendous harm to seniors and America's families. With two courts now ruling this legislation unconstitutional, it is entirely reasonable for President Obama to do the only fair and sensible thing, and that is to suspend the health care law until the matter is resolved."

Adding insult to injury to Obama's 'signature' legislation is that some Democrats are now claiming the word 'ObamaCare' to be a slur against the President. But if the bill is so great, wouldn't they want the President to get credit, and wouldn't the word ObamaCare fill them with pride?

Whatever name you call it, this bill should be orphaned without delay, and suspended while the courts have a final say on this clearly unconstitutional legislation.

60 Plus Honors Ronald Reagan



February 6, 2011 marked the 100th birthday of perhaps our most revered President.

Said 60 Plus Chairman Jim Martin of the occasion, “We honor the 100th anniversary of President Ronald Wilson Reagan, a champion of liberty and a hero for history, whose legacy will resound for decades and generations to come. For his defining leadership and for his rekindling of liberty in America when we need it most, the 20th century will always be known as ‘Reagan’s Century.’

“When our nation was struggling with its identity and the people were struggling under a government that had lost its way, Ronald Reagan emerged to rekindle the sacred fire of liberty, setting the people free to reignite the American engine of prosperity. ‘Government was the problem,’ he said,

and people were the solution.

“President Reagan has a special place in the heart of the 60 Plus Association, where we and our millions of supporters continue to fight for the ideals and policies to which he devoted his life. Ronald Reagan abhorred the estate tax as an especially insidious policy of the federal government, and used the often-quoted 60 Plus term ‘the death tax’ to highlight how wrong it is for the IRS to be the first to greet us on our passing and embarking on the journey for eternal peace.

“Thank you President Reagan, as we remember and honor you on this, the 100th anniversary of your birth. Your love of America will never be forgotten, and your legacy will live on this day, 100 years from the date of your birth, and for many, many years to come.”

60 Plus Chairman: ‘Factual’ to Attack Democrats, Not Republicans, for Medicare Cuts

April 27, 2011 2:44 PM, *ABC News*’ Rick Klein reports:

The same Republican-leaning group that attacked Democrats for cutting Medicare during last year’s campaign is this year thanking Republicans for voting for the Paul Ryan budget – a proposal that would phase out Medicare altogether for those under 55 years of age.

On *ABC*’s “Top Line” today, Jim Martin, Chairman of the 60 Plus Association, told us he’s “being factual” by attacking Democrats and defending Republicans, since – he claims – Democrats supported “ending Medicare as we know it” last year by supporting \$500 billion in future cuts to the program as part of President Obama’s health care law.

“‘Ending Medicare as we know it’ is the main talking point now of everybody from the president in the White House to every Democrat on Capitol Hill,” Martin told us. “Ending Medicare as we know it happened a year ago in March, when ObamaCare passed.

Because it radically changed Medicare as we seniors know it by cutting half-a-trillion dollars out of Medicare.”

“There’s a huge doctor shortage on the horizon. And already rationing has started. I can name you one drug, it’s a breast cancer drug, called Avastin, that has already been declassified by the FDA because of cost and cost alone. That is – Medicare as we know it changed radically a year ago.”

It’s “absolutely true” that House Budget Chairman Paul Ryan’s plan phases out Medicare for those who are under 55, Martin said. But “at least [Ryan is] trying to save Medicare for the future.”

“If you do nothing, instead of being on the path to prosperity, as Mr. Ryan likes to say, we’re going to be on the road to ruin with Medicare. Everybody knows it’s going under because of the huge cost involved.”



And Martin attacked Democratic-aligned groups for distorting elements of the Ryan plan: “It’s time to stop this. It’s shameful. And it’s time to stop those tactics.”

Watch the full interview with Jim Martin here: <http://blogs.abcnews.com/thenote/2011/04/60-plus-chairman-factual-to-attack-democrats-not-republicans-for-medicare-cuts.html>.

Chairman Jim Martin worked for a Member of Congress when Medicare was passed in 1965.

'Death Tax' Compromise

Earlier this year saw a compromise on the Bush tax cuts, with the Obama Administration regretfully extending them against their wishes for another two years, having lost all leverage to oppose extending them after the results of November's election.

Unfortunately, Republicans gave way on the estate tax or "death tax," agreeing to a 35% tax rate on large estates or family-owned companies, an absolutely terrible development in an economic climate when more private investment is needed and tax accounting requires some certainty for investors.

"While this is better than the death tax rate of 55% that would have come back on January 1st, this is not the way to spur economic growth" said Jim Martin, Chairman of the 60 Plus Association. "What we need is permanent repeal of the death tax so that families and small business owners will have confidence that their assets will not be taxed for a second or third time when they die. This is the most burdensome, most confiscatory, and most unfair of all taxes."

Typical Washington thinking; all agree that



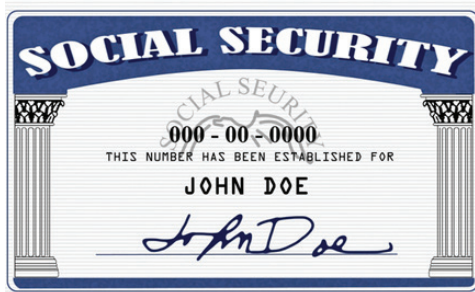
lower estate taxes are good for the economy and promote private investment, yet we only get a little help from Washington. It's like saying vitamins are good, but you should only take them when you are healthy.

If Washington were truly serious about creating a vibrant economic environment, they would give the estate tax the death penalty once and for all, with no stay of execution.

Deficit Panel Targets Social Security

For decades, the politicians from both parties have been spending money from Social Security about as soon as the money is collected to the Treasury, essentially turning the Social Security "trust fund" into a political "slush fund."

It should come as no surprise then that appointing these same politicians to a panel charged with cooking up ideas on how to "solve" our nation's debt problem would prove to be just as hazardous to the health of Social Security.



The Obama "Deficit Commission" led by former Republican Senators Alan Simpson and Judd Gregg, along with Democrats Erskine Bowles and Senator Kent Conrad all rallied to the cause of further cuts to Social Security, scapegoating the program as a contributor to our national debt issues when the facts are just the opposite.

As most Americans and every senior knows, Social Security has been running huge surpluses for the last 70 years, but now with fewer workers paying in and the funds all spent by the politicians, something has to give.

Further insulting the intelligence of seniors, these "leaders" said their plan would "make Social Security solvent" and are, therefore, in the best interests of the program.

60 Plus Chairman Jim Martin was quick to shoot back, "If the Deficit Commissioners

want to see a true cause of debt creation, they should look in the mirror. Year in and year out these folks, Democrats and Republicans alike, spend every dollar out of the Social Security Trust Fund surpluses and now, as the well runs dry, they pledge to make the fund solvent?"

Martin echoed the sentiments of former Senators John Heinz (R-PA) and Fritz Hollings (D-SC), who called the practice of pilfering Social Security revenues exactly what it is; embezzlement. Said Martin, "If businesses did this, they would be jailed. That's why I call these Commission members 'embezzlers.'"

While the embezzlement continues, seniors should understand that the Deficit Commission is not their friend, so long as it seeks to solve chronic problems of political ineptitude on the backs of the elderly who have paid their entire lives into Social Security.

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60 Plus in the News

The fast pace of Congressional activity has kept 60 Plus busy and on our toes, with Chairman Jim Martin and National Spokesman Pat Boone making the rounds of the media to discuss the key issues of the day.

Recently, Pat Boone was on Fox News Channel's Hannity show defending our nation against President Obama's trillions in new spending and debt.

Meanwhile, Chairman Jim Martin has been in high demand, appearing in February and March on Fox Business Channel regarding the most recent court ruling declaring ObamaCare unconstitutional. Jim also took on the issue of elder care, and how seniors must be protected in the face of new health care legislation.

60 Plus senior-citizen activist, Mary Jo Shufelt, is interviewed by Sky TV of Australia at CPAC.



Jim Martin is interviewed on "Radio Row" at CPAC.