



## CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26

**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**

Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness



# Roll Call

THE NEWSPAPER OF CAPITOL HILL SINCE 1955

## Politics

[SIGN IN](#) | [SUBSCRIBE](#)  
Work on Capitol Hill? Enjoy free access.

[POLITICS](#) | [LOBBYING](#) | [OPINION](#) | [AROUND THE HILL](#) | [RC JOBS](#)

[GO](#)

## IRS Eyes Big Donors

### Past Gifts to Political Nonprofits May Face Taxes

By [Amanda Becker](#)  
Roll Call Staff  
May 12, 2011, Midnight

The IRS has begun enforcing an oft-ignored tax on contributions to nonprofit advocacy groups, potentially creating large gift tax liabilities for donors who wrote big checks last year and throwing a wrench into the fundraising push leading up to the 2012 elections.

The IRS for decades has done little to enforce a statute that requires individuals to pay a tax on money given to organizations that are tax-exempt but not charitable in mission. But attorneys say donors who gave generously to the type of influential nonprofit group known as a 501(c)(4) organization, which proliferated during the last election cycle thanks to their ability to shield donors from public disclosure, are now receiving notices from the IRS that their tax returns are being examined.

"It's exciting news that this is something they're paying attention to, it could really change the dynamic of where or if big donors are giving their money," said Lisa Gilbert of the consumer advocacy group Public Citizen, which itself has a registered 501(c)(4) division.

Nonprofit 501(c)(4) organizations emerged as powerful players during the last election cycle, often working in tandem with "super PACs" to inject millions of dollars into political campaigns. Unlike their charitable 501(c)(3) counterparts, which are barred from political activity, and 527 political organizations, which have heightened disclosure requirements, 501(c)(4) groups can shield donor

[SHARE](#) [f](#) [t](#) [...](#)

[Print](#)

[Email](#)

[Reprints](#)

[Text size](#)

[RCJobs.com](#)  
[Learn more.](#)

[LATEST NEWS](#) | [MOST POPULAR](#) | [MOST EMAILED](#)

- [Stephen Colbert Files FEC Request for Colbert PAC \(VIDEO\)](#)  
6:46 a.m.
- [DNC Goes After Romney Health Care Speech](#) 5 a.m.
- [Member-Vs.-Member Race Could Get Nasty in Bayou](#)
- [Financial Adviser Seeks Rep. Mike Pence's Seat](#)
- [For Some in Senate, Losing Once Is Way to Win](#)
- [Republican Will Challenge Cicilline](#)

[More News](#)

## WE HAVE A CHOICE, BRING THE MONEY HOME.

[WinAmericaCampaign.org](#)

CQ Roll Call  
May 12, 2011

# Roll Call

THE NEWSPAPER OF CAPITOL HILL SINCE 1955

**SIGN IN | SUBSCRIBE**  
Work on Capitol Hill? Enjoy free access.

**POLITICS**

**LOBBYING**

**OPINION**

**AROUND THE HILL**

**RC JOBS**

GO

## Sessions: No Budget Wonk

By Steven T. Dennis



File Photo

With budget talks breaking out all over Capitol Hill, Senate Budget ranking member Jeff Sessions has been on the outside looking in.

**POLITICS**

## IRS Eyes Big Donors

By Amanda Becker

The IRS has begun enforcing an oft-ignored tax on contributions to nonprofit advocacy groups, potentially creating large gift tax liabilities for donors who wrote big checks last year and throwing a wrench into the fundraising push leading up to the 2012 elections.

- Roll Call's HowGovtWorks

**LATEST NEWS**

- Stephen Colbert Files FEC Request for Colbert PAC (VIDEO) 6:46 a.m.
- DNC Goes After Romney Health Care Speech 5 a.m.
- Member-Vs.-Member Race Could Get Nasty in Bayou
- Financial Adviser Seeks Rep. Mike Pence's Seat
- For Some in Senate, Losing Once Is Way to Win
- Republican Will Challenge Cicilline

**More News**

## Medicare Vote Returns for the Recess

By Jessica Brady, John Stanton

House Republicans are working to prevent Medicare reform from becoming the politically defining issue of their party for the 2012 election season.

## Coburn, Norquist Tax Each Other

By David M. Drucker



Douglas Graham/Roll Call

**POLITICS**

## Top 10 Power Brokers in Redistricting

By Shira Toepflitz

It's not always the most visible Members on Capitol Hill who have the biggest pull back home in Congressional redistricting battles.



**CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26**  
**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**  
Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness  
AMERICAN ACADEMY of ACTUARIES

FOLLOW US

NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

LATEST PRINT EDITION

# Congress.org



**CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26**  
**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**  
Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness

AMERICAN ACADEMY of ACTUARIES

Sign In | **REGISTER**

Advertisement


Get informed, get involved

# Congress.org

a publication of CQ-Roll Call Group | 9,265,992 letters written to Congress

NEWS ISSUES PROFILE WHO WE ARE

Search



## Congress Q&A

CQ Roll Call illustration

How much has the war on terror cost?

**Congress Q&A: War on terror**  
How much has the war on terror cost? We answer your questions about Congress and the federal government.

**Obama pushes immigration issue**

**No Child rewrite unlikely**

 **Sign up** to receive the weekly **Congress.org** newsletter

**OUR LATEST NEWS** [See All](#)

**Sides split on debt issues**  
Senate Democrats and Republicans still appear headed in

 **Get on Your Soapbox**

**Share your views, start a movement »**

**YOUR CALLS TO ACTION** [See All](#)

**Most Recent** **Most Viewed**

**The Energy Shell Game**  
May 12, 2011

**Passing the BUCK**  
May 12, 2011

**VA Claims Examiners and Processing**  
May 11, 2011

**Immigration**  
May 11, 2011

[Create your own alert »](#)

 **Letters to Leaders**

**Write your lawmaker »**

**OTHER PEOPLE'S MAIL** [See All](#)

**Benefits**

**Get Involved**

Find your lawmakers, tell them what you think.  **Go**

**Join the conversation**  
Become a member of Congress.org here »

**Search Congress by name »**



**CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26**  
**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**  
Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness

AMERICAN ACADEMY of ACTUARIES

Advertisement

**Join a Cause**

  
ALERTS FROM GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS [See All](#)





**CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26**  
**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**  
Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness



HOME TRENDING NEWS DICTIONARY JOB HUNT ARCHIVES LINKS  SUBSCRIBE



TAEGAN GODDARD'S  
**POLITICAL WIRE**

Brought to you by 

Google™ Custom Search

Find a story you like? Recommend it to a friend on Facebook.

May 12, 2011

**Quote of the Day**

"This is the weakest Republican field since Wendell Willkie won the nomination on the sixth ballot in 1940."

-- John Weaver, would-be campaign manager for Jon Huntsman, in an interview with [Time magazine](#).

 Recommend   Tweet   32 Comments

**All Eyes on Cheri Daniels**

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels wife, Cheri, will make a keynote appearance at the state GOP's spring dinner tonight and "is generating buzz -- and more than a few TV satellite trucks -- for a simple reason: Party leaders see her as the main hurdle to Mr. Daniels's entry in the 2012 presidential race, a move many top Republicans hope the governor will make," the [Wall Street Journal](#) reports.

"The governor insists his wife has no plans to break news... But the mere fact that she's addressing the state's GOP faithful is stirring speculation that Mr. Daniels, a former aide to Presidents Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush, is gearing up for a 2012 bid. He says he will decide within weeks."

 Recommend   Tweet   14 Comments



FOLLOW US    

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

## Quote of the Day

"This is the weakest Republican field since Wendell Willkie won the nomination on the sixth ballot in 1940."

-- John Weaver, would-be campaign manager for Jon Huntsman, in an interview with [Time magazine](#).



## All Eyes on Cheri Daniels

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels wife, Cheri, will make a keynote appearance at the state GOP's spring dinner tonight and "is generating buzz -- and more than a few TV satellite trucks -- for a simple reason: Party leaders see her as the main hurdle to Mr. Daniels's entry in the 2012 presidential race, a move many top Republicans hope the governor will make," the [Wall Street Journal](#) reports.

"The governor insists his wife has no plans to break news... But the mere fact that she's addressing the state's GOP faithful is stirring speculation that Mr. Daniels, a former aide to Presidents Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush, is gearing up for a 2012 bid. He says he will decide within weeks."



## Raid Seized Osama Bin Laden's Journal

53 comments · 4 minuter siden

## McCotter for President?

139 comments · 1 dag siden

## Obama Approval Highest in Two Years

70 comments · 14 timer siden

## Boehner's Unreality Check on the Debt

60 comments · 14 timer siden

## Obama's Running Mate

26 comments · 25 minutter siden

## Deer in the Headlights

39 comments · 2 timer siden

## OUR OTHER SITES



## TRENDING STORIES

First Thoughts: Side-stepping the issue?

Obama urges companies to hire, studies housing moves

Can Romney find a cure for 'Romneycare'?

Political Memo: Weighing a White House Bid as Opening a Door to Past Pain

Stephen Colbert Files FEC Request for Colbert PAC (VIDEO)

Blagojevich retrial: Selling Obama Senate seat, Jackson, Reid and Rahm

[Login »](#)
[News](#)
[Bills](#)
[Committees](#)
[Members ▾](#)
[Floor & Votes ▾](#)
[Laws & Regulations ▾](#)




**CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26**  
**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**  
 Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness



[My Subscription ▾](#)
[Alerts & Tools ▾](#)
[Help](#)
[Live Chat](#)
[NEED HELP? CLICK TO CHAT](#)

[GO](#)
[Advanced Search »](#)

[Print version](#)

CQ TODAY ONLINE NEWS  
May 11, 2011 – 9:55 p.m.

## Amid Competing Pressures, Conrad Seeks Balance on Budget

By Paul M. Krawzak, CQ Staff

Senate Democrats are laboring to produce a fiscal 2012 budget blueprint that will satisfy their own members and still draw a sharp contrast with a House Republican plan they have branded as extreme.

So far, achieving that goal has proved challenging.

Democratic leaders have to guard against moving too far to the left, because they want their budget to serve as a plausible starting point in negotiations over raising the debt limit.

A further complication: The blueprint needs to strike a balance between spending cuts and tax increases to unite liberal and moderate Democrats in a closely divided Senate.

Both parties are working to produce a plan that would trim the deficit — thus making a vote to raise the \$14.3 trillion debt limit more palatable — while not alienating their membership. While the Senate budget resolution might not be the final vehicle for any grand bargain on the debt limit, it does provide a window into the parties' political considerations.

Democrats have slammed the House plan written by Budget Chairman [Paul D. Ryan](#), R-Wis., but have left themselves open to charges they have no alternative to address the growing cost of entitlement programs and a record federal debt.

Early trial balloons from Senate Democrats suggest they are looking at substantial tax increases as a way to curtail the debt, a move that GOP leaders in both chambers categorically have ruled out. Reconciling those two positions will be crucial for Congress to strike a debt limit deal before early August, when Treasury Department officials have warned the nation could face a default on its borrowing obligations if the limit is not raised.

Merchants and American Express:  
**The Right Relationship**  
See why merchants choose to partner with American Express.



**Ashish Sanghrajka, Stuart, FL**  
President,  
Big Five Tours & Expeditions  
Accepting American Express  
Since 1993

**WATCH ASHISH'S VIDEO >**



**E-mail Alerts**

**Issues**

☐ Budget

☐ Taxes

[Create Alert](#)

**Bills**

☐ H Con Res 34

☐ Fiscal 2012 Senate Budget Resolution

☐ S 552

[Create Alert](#)

**Related Documents**

[GOP Freshmen Cast House Resolution as 'Outline,' Decry Attacks](#) | [Letter](#)

[Login »](#)
[News](#)
[Bills](#)
[Committees](#)
[Members](#)
[Floor & Votes](#)
[Laws & Regulations](#)

Merchants and American Express:  
**The Right Relationship**  
See why merchants choose to partner with American Express.

**Ashish Sanghrajka, Stuart, FL**  
President, Big Five Tours & Expeditions  
Accepting American Express Since 1993  
**WATCH ASHISH'S VIDEO >**

[My Subscription](#)
[Alerts & Tools](#)
[Help](#)
[Live Chat](#)

[GO](#)
[Advanced Search »](#)

### Amid Competing Pressures, Conrad Seeks Balance on Budget

By Paul M. Krawzak, CQ Staff

Senate Democrats are laboring to produce a fiscal 2012 budget blueprint that will satisfy their own members but still draw a sharp contrast with a House Republican plan they have branded as extreme. So far, achieving that goal has proved challenging.

- » [GOP Freshmen Cast House Resolution as 'Outline,' Decry Attacks | Letter](#)
- » [Schumer: Rollback of Oil Tax Breaks Will Be on Table](#)
- » [CQ Newsmaker Transcripts: House GOP Leaders | White House Press Secretary](#)

### Move to Aid Middle East Rebels Gains Ground

By Emily Cadei, CQ Staff

The administration is working with several key senators to expand aid to nascent democratic movements in the Middle East. Sens. John McCain, John Kerry, Lindsey Graham and others are collaborating with State Department officials on an economic-assistance package that could include significant debt relief.

- » [CQ Newsmaker Transcript: State Dept. Briefing](#)
- » [Panel-Approved Resolutions Ask Obama Administration for More Libya Documents](#)

### House Appropriators Look to Trim Another \$30 Billion in Spending

By Kerry Young, CQ Staff

House appropriators are aiming to sharply pare federal spending for many federal agencies in fiscal 2012, in part to make room for a \$17 billion funding boost for the Pentagon.

- » [Appropriations Committee News Release \(pdf\)](#)

### Latest News »

**UPDATED** [Armed Services Backs 2012 Defense Authorization Bill](#)  
May 12, 5:53 a.m.

[Today at a Glance: May 12, 2011](#)  
May 11, 10:55 p.m.

[People on the Move](#)  
May 11, 10:54 p.m.

[GOP Pushes Regulatory Review, Prompts Constitutional Criticism](#)  
May 11, 10:54 p.m.

['Tax Holiday' for Foreign Earnings Draws Support](#)  
May 11, 10:23 p.m.

[Amid Competing Pressures, Conrad Seeks Balance on Budget](#)  
May 11, 9:55 p.m.

[Panel Adopts Amendment Limiting President's Power Over Nuclear Stockpile](#)  
May 11, 9:32 p.m.

[Move to Aid Middle East Rebels Gains Ground](#)  
May 11, 9:26 p.m.

[House Panel Moves to Resuscitate Terminated F-35 Alternative Engine](#)  
May 11, 9:13 p.m.

### MORE LATEST NEWS

[E-mail me the latest news](#) weekdays at 4 p.m. (see sample)

### CAPITOL HILL BRIEFING MAY 26

**An Actuarial Perspective on the 2011 Social Security Trustees Report**

Public policy options to address Social Security's long-term financial soundness

#### Today at a Glance

The House is scheduled to vote on a bill that would lift a **moratorium on offshore oil drilling**, after which the chamber will take up the **intelligence authorization** bill.

The Senate votes on the nomination of **Michael Francis Urbanski** to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Virginia.

House Financial Services marks up a bill to **delay new regulation of commodity and derivatives markets**.

A House Energy subcommittee marks up a bill on **state flexibility in Medicaid implementation**.

[See complete CQ Schedules](#)

### HOUSE

*Convenes at noon for legislative business*

*Subject to a rule:*