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## **\$43.7 Billion of “Stimulus” Funds Spent 1.5 Million Jobs Lost Cost to taxpayers: \$2,900 per job lost**

WASHINGTON, D.C.— With President Barack Obama today announcing plans to speed up “stimulus” spending this summer in an effort to “save or create” 600,000 jobs, Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) pointed out the following:

-- **At least 1.5 million jobs have been lost since the signing of the “stimulus”.** From the time of Obama’s Feb. 17 signing of the “stimulus” bill, the U.S. has lost at least 1.5 million jobs, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

-- **Each lost job has cost taxpayers \$2,900.** According to Recovery.gov, \$43.73 billion of the “stimulus” funds have been spent as of May 29. Dividing \$43.73 billion by the 1.5 million jobs lost since the signing of the “stimulus” means that **taxpayers have ponied up \$2,900 per lost job.**

-- **There is no honest way to measure the number of “saved” jobs:** The Obama-invented metric of a “saved or created” job was best debunked by the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Max Baucus (D-Mont.) on March 4 while [challenging](#) Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner’s use of the term:

SEN: MAX BAUCUS: "You created a situation where you cannot be wrong. If the economy loses 2 million jobs over the next few years, you can say yes, but it would've lost 5.5 million jobs. If we create a million jobs, you can say, well, it would have lost 2.5 million jobs," Baucus said. "You've given yourself complete leverage where you cannot be wrong, because you can take any scenario and make yourself look correct."

-- **“Stimulus” spending has proven highly questionable thus far.** Taxpayers are on the hook for \$550,000 to build a [skateboard park](#) and renovate basketball and tennis courts in Pawtucket, Rhode Island; \$4,000,000 for the paving of a [private jet parking lot](#) in struggling Aspen, Colorado; and \$11,400,00 for the [National Zoo](#) in Washington, DC.

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at [jkartch@atr.org](mailto:jkartch@atr.org).

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