

Chattanooga City Council



RESOLUTION 27620

Whereas the United States government is currently confronting major decisions regarding our nation's budget and fiscal policies; and

Whereas the American economy continues its slow and inadequate recovery from the Great Recession; unemployment stubbornly remains at more than 7 percent; and a weak economy undermines the nation's social fabric and deprives future generations of the opportunity to live rich and fulfilling lives; and

Whereas Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid are central to the vitality of the middle class and keep millions of Americans out of poverty and federal investments in education, child care, infrastructure; and services for the elderly and vulnerable are essential to the nation's future prosperity; and

Whereas unwise cuts to the federal spending inevitably shift costs onto states and municipalities, which, unlike the federal government, have to balance their budgets every year, forcing cuts to vital services that all Americans depend upon; and

Whereas real median family income has been nearly stagnant for four decades despite continued growth in productivity; economic inequality has expanded to levels unseen since the 1930s; the wealthiest Americans, including corporations, receive an ever-larger share of national income and pay an ever-smaller percentage of taxes; and millions of families are unable to afford basic necessities;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Chattanooga City Council hereby calls upon Congress to adopt Federal budget policies that prioritize the revitalization of the economy, the creation of millions of new jobs, and a return to broadly-shared prosperity; to avoid cuts to Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid benefits or shifting of costs to the states; to resist cuts to the safety net or to vital services for the most disadvantaged members of society; and to restructure our tax system so that wealthy Americans and corporations pay their fair share.

ADOPTED: August 13, 2013