



A Better Way to Do the People's Business

Fact Sheet

A plan to restore self-government and the separation of powers is the fourth plank of A Better Way, a bold agenda to tackle some of our country's biggest challenges.

WHY WE NEED A BETTER WAY

Just as the size of government has grown, so has its arrogance. Washington spends money it isn't authorized to spend. It takes power it isn't given. It ignores laws it is required to execute. The Founders insisted on a separation of powers to protect our constitutional liberties. But over time, especially in recent decades, the executive branch has collected more power for itself, enabled by a judiciary that defers to the bureaucracy and a Congress that has yielded some of its most fundamental duties. This concentration of power weakens the voice of the people and the integrity of the Constitution itself.

WHAT A BETTER WAY LOOKS LIKE

A constitutional government is a good, fair, and decent government—one that listens to the people and promotes their well-being. It makes sure that each of us has the biggest role to play in our lives. That's why Congress must start writing laws in clear language with clear lines of authority. We must make sure agencies and bureaucracies adhere to the letter of the law. We must use our constitutional checks on spending. We must make the government catch up with the times, and provide real transparency for taxpayers. This is a better way to do the people's business.

WHAT OUR PLAN MEANS FOR TAXPAYERS

- **Less government overreach.** Our plan subjects unelected bureaucrats to more scrutiny from a Congress that enforces clear checks and balances, watchdogs that have more tools to root out fraud and abuse, and a public that knows what it has a right to know.
- **Fewer needless regulations.** Our plan rewrites old laws so that regulations better reflect the will—and the input—of the people. Let's make the bureaucrats jump through more hoops—and spend less money—for a change.
- **More limits on runaway spending.** Our plan gives Congress and the people the most say—and the final word—over who is spending your money, what it's being spent on, where it's being spent, when it's being spent, and why it's being spent.
- **More openness and transparency.** Our plan makes the government catch up with the times and publish more data about its spending. Sunlight really is the best disinfectant.

WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT

This may be the most important plank of A Better Way because we won't be able to fix our most intractable problems unless we have a government that is open and accountable to the people it serves.