



THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2005

"Saving" Social Security? Not That Hard

by Michael in New York on [3/24/2005 02:06:00 AM](#)

Here's another point about the annual report on Social Security and Medicare, the one that said Medicare is in much worse shape (ignore that, says Bush) and that some of the warning dates for SS have moved up a year (meaningless when you're projecting decades ahead, say most experts).

One item in the [New York Times](#):

"To pay all scheduled benefits over the next 75 years, the government would have to raise an additional \$4 trillion in today's dollars, \$300 billion higher than the figure projected last year."

You mean, if we simply chose not to make permanent those tax cuts for the super rich -- the ones Bush enacted because he insisted we would have such a massive surplus in our budget it would be downright dangerous -- that this ALONE would provide enough money to shore up SS for the next 75 years without ANY other changes? With money to spare? Gee, choosing between an unnecessary windfall for people making \$300,000 a year and more versus ensuring that old people don't go hungry is a really tough choice.

I guess when Greenspan said fixing SS really wasn't that hard, he knew what he was talking about. Mind you, I don't think spiking those windfalls for the super rich is all that should be done -- modest changes in SS are perfectly reasonable adjustments to make (such as raising the retirement age when full benefits kick in two years since people live so much longer).

And of course some of that money is needed for Medicare. But let's pick our priorities. Very recent windfalls for the super-rich of focusing on the health and minimal needs of the elderly? Gee, what would Jesus do?



JOHN'S PHOTOS



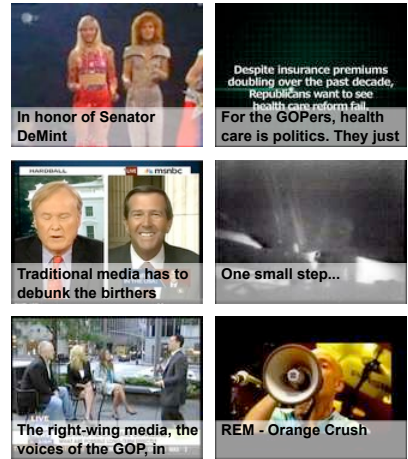
Click here for more tips
fightglobalwarming.com
 Ad Council ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE
 finding the ways that work

HOT OFF THE WIRE


- HuffPost Politics**
 The Wrong Reporter Asks Obama A Question - The chance to ask a question during a prime-time presidential press conference is treasured real estate in the world of journalism. So when the President...
1 minute ago
- Daily Kos**
 IOKIYAPI (It's OK If You're A Private Insurer) - Here's William Kristol revealing the *horrors* hidden within the health care bill as it emerged from the HELP committee... For Kennedy and his co-autho...
13 minutes ago
- Ben Smith**
 Obama: Cambridge police acted 'stupidly' - After spending most of an hour patiently reiterating his arguments for changing the health insurance system, President Barack Obama turned his press
21 minutes ago
- Paul Krugman**
 Professor in chief - I found Obama's health care presentation so impressive - so much command of the issues - that it had me worried. If I really like a politicians' speech, is...
41 minutes ago
- Eschaton**
 Obama Speaks - In Case You Missed It
50 minutes ago

Show All

AMERICABLOG TV



Next 6

I collect with  vodpod

see all 322 videos >

Visit our AMERICAblog TV site.

GAY POLITICS



Visit our new gay politics section, [AMERICAblog Gay](#).

FEEDS

-  [Blog RSS](#)
-  [1,482 readers](#)
- BY FEEDBURNER
-  [AMERICAblog TV RSS](#)
-  [Twitter RSS](#)
- [Twitter Feed](#)
-  [Mobile Version](#)
-  [Google](#)

Get the blog by email:

[Subscribe me!](#)



Take this quick survey and help us help you.

[TAKE SURVEY](#)

Top Ad

[Advertise in this spot.](#)

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Ezra Klein

Tab Dump
2 hours ago

Wonk Room

Sen. Byron Dorgan:
The 'Trade' In
Cap-And-Trade 'Makes
No Sense To Me'
4 hours ago

Health Beat

Truth Squad: Wall
Street Journal Health
Care Editorial Wrong on
the Facts

SEARCH

AMERICAblog
 Web

Search

SEND US TIPS & COMMENTS

americablog@starpower.net

BLOG ARCHIVE

Blog Archive

SITES WE LIKE

- [Air America Radio](#)
- [Alan Colmes' blog](#)
- [Ari Melber \(The Nation\)](#)
- [Ben Smith](#)
- [BicycleMark's blog & podcast](#)
- [Bilerico](#)
- [BradBlog](#)
- [Bring It On](#)
- [Carrie Fisher](#)
- [Crooks and Liars](#)
- [DailyKos](#)
- [Dan Savage's "Slog"](#)
- [Daou Report](#)
- [Democratic Underground](#)
- [Eschaton](#)
- [Ezra Klein](#)
- [Fire Dog Lake](#)
- [FiveThirtyEight.com](#)
- [Freeway Blogger](#)
- [The Gavel \(Speaker Pelosi's blog\)](#)
- [Good As You](#)
- [Glenn Greenwald](#)
- [Holy Bullies and Headless Monsters](#)
- [Huffington Post](#)
- [Hullabaloo \(Digby\)](#)
- [Jack and Jill Politics](#)
- [Jed Report](#)
- [Jesus' General](#)
- [Kenneth in the 212](#)
- [Margaret and Helen](#)
- [Matthew Gross](#)
- [Media Matters](#)
- [Mike Signorile's "The Gist"](#)
- [Mudflats](#)
- [MyDD](#)
- [Open Left](#)
- [Plum Line](#)
- [Political Punch \(Jake Tapper\)](#)
- [Political Wire](#)
- [Politics 1](#)
- [Pop Surfing](#)
- [Progressive Blog Digest](#)
- [Queers United](#)
- [RawStory](#)
- [Rex Wockner](#)
- [Rude Pundit](#)
- [Smirking Chimp](#)
- [Talk Left](#)
- [Tapped](#)
- [Taylor Marsh](#)
- [Think Progress](#)
- [TowleRoad](#)
- [VetVoice.com](#)
- [Washington Note](#)
- [WayneBesen.com](#)
- [Wonkette](#)
- [Worth Repeating](#)



NEWS LINKS

- [US](#)
- [Washington Post](#)

PLEASE SUPPORT AMERICABLOG

One-time donation

\$

Donate

Recurring monthly donation

\$

Donate

Donations are not tax-deductible.

LABELS

Select a label

LAST 100 VISITORS

Recent Visitors

[Click to Get FEEDJIT](#)

ABOUT AMERICABLOG

Why AMERICAblog?

Because a great nation deserves the truth.

What issues do you cover?

US politics overall with a particular focus on the Obama Administration, the radical right, and civil rights.

Who are you?

John Aravosis
Editor
Washington, DC

Joe Sudbay
Deputy Editor
Washington, DC

Chris Ryan
Associate Editor
Paris, France

Robert Arena
Contributing Editor
Baltimore, Maryland

Jacki Schechner
Contributing Editor
Washington, DC

