

BACKGROUND PAPER - OUR CHALLENGE

Most of us have heard some version of a joke with the punchline “I am from the Federal Government and I am here to help you”. Nowadays the exact opposite is true, and it is no joke. We The People must help our Federal Government, and We The People are the only ones who can.

The financial management of the Federal Government a mess. It has been a mess for a long time and it is getting worse. If we don’t fix it, and fix it soon, our national government could go broke. And if that happens, the consequences will be far worse than the right solution adopted right now.

The good news is that there is a solution, and we need only our common sense and our collective will to make it happen. We The People must adopt a *Bill of Financial Responsibilities™* in the U.S. Constitution- five short amendments that provide a common sense, clear set of rules for our elected and appointed leaders to properly manage the \$4 trillion we sent them every year. They have all been written and are ready to go.

Sounds like somebody else’s job, doesn’t it? No it isn’t. It is what a free people do when the government of the people that we created gets off course. It is what a free people do when their elected officials can’t, or won’t.

Don’t let anyone tell you this is too complicated, too “inside the Beltway” for the people to accomplish. Could it become a lawyer’s dream, with smoke-filled rooms full of lobbyists and academics producing sneaky minutia that nobody understands? Not if we do it right and really put the people in charge of doing it.

It is time to stop listening to political scorekeepers picking nightly winners and losers, punctuated by partisan name-calling reported 24/7 on cable-TV and social media.

There is a better way. Let’s do it together.