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**Postcard Party #90 October 12, 2018**

**National**

**Federal Deficit**

The Federal Deficit will exceed $1 trillion this year as the Freedom Caucus pushes $2 trillion more in tax cuts for the wealthy.

Deficit expected to hit one trillion dollars this year. ThinkProgress: “The U.S. deficit will approach $1 trillion dollars by the end of this fiscal year, according to new estimates from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office. From this time last year until now, the U.S. deficit grew by $222 billion - reaching a total of $895 billion. The CBO previously did not anticipate reaching $1 trillion dollars until 2020. This latest analysis comes as House Republicans unveil their new round of tax cuts, nicknamed “Tax Cuts 2.0.” The cuts would add more than $2 trillion to the federal deficit over the next 10 years, according to a conservative estimate by The Washington Post. A more liberal estimate puts it at $3.4 trillion over the same time period. And that’s not even accounting for the $1.9 trillion dollar cost of the original GOP tax bill passed in December. The second round of tax cuts, spearheaded by House Ways & Means Chairman Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX), aims to fix what the original tax bill didn’t initially address. For example, while corporations enjoyed a permanent tax cut in the GOP tax bill, individuals and families were only offered a temporary cut that Congress would have to extend by 2025.”

Write to Senators Tillis and Burr and demand that they oppose this new giveaway to the wealthy that will result in fiscal ruin.

**NC11 Congressional Candidate Debates**

Phillip Price, the challenger to incumbent Mark Meadows for the NC11 Congressional seat, has proposed that the candidates hold at least one debate so voters can directly hear their views. Meadows has, so far, refused to debate Price.

Write Rep. Meadows and demand that he meet Phillip Price in an open debate before Election Day.

**State**

**Voter ID Amendment**

Chuck McGrady wants us to trust him on Voter ID.

Quoted from Chuck McGrady’s Newsletter of October 8:

"H 1092 [Const. Amendment - Require Photo ID to Vote] requires voters to provide photo identification before voting in person. I voted to put this on the ballot because I believe the only way to require a voter ID is by a constitutional amendment since a federal court having jurisdiction over North Carolina seems to feel any restriction is racially motivated.

“The majority of states require a voter ID. H 1092 passed the House by a vote of 74-43 and 33-12 in the Senate.

“My view: I support this amendment. Picture IDs are required for all sorts of daily activities, and they will have to be provided free-of-charge by the state. I don’t believe requiring a voter ID is discriminatory.”

The Voter ID Amendment is designed to reduce the number of minorities who are eligible to vote.

Moreover, the proposed Amendment doesn’t even specify what forms of ID will be allowed. We are to trust the GOP legislature to decide that AFTER the elections.

Write to State Senator Edwards and Representative McGrady to demand that they release their definitions of valid IDs before early voting begins, so voters can decide if they are trustworthy.

**North Carolina Gerrymandering**

The nonpartisan NC Coalition for Lobbying & Government Reform is asking all candidates for the NC General Assembly if they pledge to support the creation of an independent, nonpartisan redistricting process for congressional and legislative districts in the upcoming 2019 legislative session.

Chuck McGrady has come out in support of this proposal, but Chuck Edwards refuses to take a public stand. Write to Sen. Edwards to demand that he release and explain his position before elections.