

United States government programs have grown in number, as well as resemblance to socialistic programs. These programs typically fill in the gaps that an otherwise free-market economy neglects to cover due to its blind pursuit of capital. This free-market socialist mix has resulted in a \$12.5 trillion dollar deficit as of February, 2010.¹ This deficit is not due to government malfeasance, but rather an imbalance between its partially regulated and unregulated economy. The United States must take drastic action to resolve this issue; the dissolution of all social federal/state government programs whose funding exceeds \$150 billion (or about 1.1% of GDP²) and whose services can be provided by (an) existing company/companies. Every 5 years an evaluation of all government programs that meet this criteria will be marked and 10% of their market control will be equally apportioned amongst qualifying companies. Qualifying companies must present the program's board with a financial plan that can withstand the majority of the market with no deficit. After further company elimination, and a preliminary testing stage of now less than 3 years, the available market share will be divided amongst the remaining companies. This will severely reduce the social presence the government has had for so long.

I. Socialism

¹ US, Treasury. "Office of Debt Management." *ustreas*. February 1. Web. 28 Feb 2010. <<http://www.ustreas.gov/offices/domestic-finance/debt-management/qbe/>>.

² Name, Unavailable. "Bureau of Economic Analysis." *ustreas*. February 1, 2006. Web. 28 Feb 2010. <<http://www.bea.gov/about/mission.htm>>

- A. A political and economic theory of social organization that advocates that the means of production, distribution, and exchange should be owned or regulated by the community as a whole.³
- B. This is inherently flawed due to globalization and the need for interstate communication.
- C. A central organization/organizations are absolutely needed to regulate/enforce.
- D. Much like communism, socialism is ideal only in theory, not in practice.

II. Free-market capitalism

- A. An economic system in which prices are determined by unrestricted competition between privately owned businesses.⁴
- B. Far more practical than socialism and communism. Although special provisions must be in place to avoid economic collapse.
- C. Light government regulation must be in place in order to prevent economic collapse. This regulation must be constant and may not fluctuate at an expected market crash.
- D. The extent of this regulation would be to prevent fraud, no government owned businesses do to their effect on the economy. Government owned businesses shift the economy in that they do not provide for equal competition.

³Jewell J. Elizabeth. Webster Dictionary Second Edition. Webster. New York, New York. 2009

⁴Abate R. Frank. Webster Dictionary Second Edition. Webster. New York, New York. 2009

III. The solution

- A. Straight up free-market capitalism with a twist of socialism (i.e. light regulation on key exploitable markets), this would be the correct balance for the United States of America. It seems as though corporations have known how to handle business and people since the industrial revolution, they've done an even better job than our government.
- B. The formation of governments was not intended to instruct the people, moreover it was not the unquestionable enforcer, it was formed at the will of the people, to regulate the people.
- C. Only affairs that corporations cannot handle will be supremely run by the government (e.g. international affairs, defense).
- D. A set federal government budget will be set at the beginning of each congressional change. A very small portion of any tax surplus will be given back to the people for use in the free-market when light regulation is needed, the rest will be used as incentives for environmentally friendly companies.

Conclusion: The elasticity of the constitution may only go so far. An entire government revamp is needed, problems that are typically attributed to government malfeasance (usually in the form of unnecessary spending), should be attributed to the governments structure and thus the role it plays in the economy. Although the changes may be drastic, and the chances of failure are enormous, the process of acclimation is gradual, and the continuity of the United States of America is on the line.