



They Said It!

Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD) Is The Latest Democrat Who Refuses To Say We Have A Spending Problem



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This Morning On CNBC, House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) Refused To Say Whether Washington Has A Spending Problem. CNBC's MICHELLE CARUSO-CABRERA: "Does the country have a spending problem?" REP. STENY HOYER (D-MA): "Does the country have a spending problem?" CARUSO-CABRERA: "Yeah." HOYER: "The country has a paying for problem. We haven't paid for what we bought. We haven't paid for our tax cuts. We haven't paid for the war." CARUSO-CABRERA: "How about what we promised? Are we promising too much?" HOYER: "Absolutely." CARUSO-CABRERA: "Okay." HOYER: "If we don't pay we shouldn't buy." CARUSO-CABRERA: "So how is that different than a spending problem?" HOYER: "Well, we spent a lot of money when George Bush was president of the United States in the House and Senate, which were controlled by Republicans, we spent a lot of money." CARUSO-CABRERA: "Okay so that's eight years and now another eight years with a lot of spending. So now we're going on 16 years of a lot of spending now." (CNBC's ["Squawk Box,"](#) 2/12/13)

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- **On Sunday, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) Said We Don't Have A Spending Problem – Twice.** REP. PELOSI: “We have to make a judgment about what -- how do we get growth with jobs, that is where the real revenue comes from. You don't get it by...cutting your education and cutting back on investments in science and National Institutes of Health, food safety, you name it. So, it isn't as much a spending problem as it is a priorities -- and that is what the budget is, setting priorities.” FOX's CHRIS WALLACE: “But you talk about growth. Even Christina Romer, the former head of the Council of Economic Advisors for the president says, you increase taxes, that also hurts growth.” WALLACE: “Well, it is about timing. It is about timing. And it is about timing as to when you make cuts, as well.” WALLACE: “The fiscal cliff, you raised taxes \$650 billion, right away.” PELOSI: “Yeah and that was a very good thing to do. On people making over -- the high end in our population. So, here's the thing, though: we are here to have a budget that has revenue coming in, that has investments made, into the future. We also want to make decisions in those two areas where growth with jobs are created, because, more jobs, more revenue coming in. Nothing brings more money to the Treasury of the United States than investment in education of the American people. So you have to recognize that. Which cuts really help us and which cuts hurt our future. And cuts in education, scientific research and the rest are harmful and they are what are affected by the sequestration. So it is almost a false argument to say we have a spending problem, we have a budget deficit problem.” (FOX's [Fox News Sunday](#), 2/10/13)
- ***The Hill* Headline: “Obama To Use State Of The Union To Make Case Against Spending Cuts”**
(Amie Parnes, “Obama To Use State Of The Union To Make Case Against Spending Cuts,” [The Hill](#), 2/12/13)