

TARP MARKS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Economy Shows Signs of Recovery on the One-Year Anniversary of the Troubled Asset Relief Program

One year ago, Congress took swift and deliberative action to rescue our financial sector from an impending collapse. While there is still work to be done, this Democratic Congress has taken bold action over the past year to avert an even deeper economic crisis, protect taxpayer resources, and put our economy on a path toward recovery.

GOP Leaders Supported TARP, Knew It Was Needed to Avert Depression

One year ago, as the nation faced the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression, House Republican Leaders implored their Members to join Democrats and vote for TARP to help stave off a collapse of our financial system. Now, one year later, the “Party of No” is playing politics with this critical program.

MINORITY LEADER JOHN BOEHNER:

Now...

“[V]otes for a stimulus bill and bailouts are not very popular at home, and I’m looking forward to a good year next year.” – Republican Leader John Boehner, Meet the Press, [9/20/09](#)

Then...

“Key Republicans also pledged to move quickly on a bill. ‘This would be the most serious financial crisis that the world has ever dealt with. It is not a time to be playing games,’ said House Republican leader John Boehner.” – USA Today, [9/22/09](#)

“Representative John A. Boehner, the House Republican leader, became emotional as he urged his party to muster the will to approve the package.” – New York Times: In Bailout Vote, a Leadership Breakdown, [9/30/08](#)

“These are the votes that separate the men from the boys.” – Republican Leader John Boehner, Floor Statement in Support of HR 3997, [9/29/08](#)

MINORITY WHIP ERIC CANTOR:

Now...

“House Minority Whip Eric Cantor, Virginia Republican, said Mr. Obama has perpetuated a ‘culture of bailouts’ for Wall Street and has mishandled the \$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), which was instituted last autumn under the Bush administration to rescue troubled financial institutions.” – Washington Times, [9/15/09](#)

Then...

“We have reached a point in our capital markets where no one is lending and the cash is sitting on the sidelines,” [House Minority Whip Eric Cantor] said. **“So there had to be an electrical shock to the system to say, okay, we're going to unfreeze it and the government is going to step in.”** – Culpepper Star Exponent, 10/22/08

“Rep. Eric I. Cantor, R-7th, who played a starring role in pushing for the package, appeared relieved to have success after the surprise defeat of the measure Monday.” – Richmond Times Dispatch, 10/3/08

TARP Already Showing Return on Taxpayer Investment

One year ago, when Congress worked with the Bush Administration to draft TARP, Democrats insisted that provisions to protect taxpayers had to be included, such as language to make sure that as the financial sector recovered from the crisis it helped create, taxpayers would be compensated. One year later, the results are running far ahead of schedule:

- **In just 11 months, financial institutions have already started paying back money, and taxpayers are seeing a profit on their investment**
- Under the \$700 billion set aside for the TARP program, **\$218 billion under the Capital Purchase Program has gone to banks and other financial institutions** at this point, and of that, **\$72.57 billion (1/3) has already been repaid**
- On top of that \$72.57 billion, the **U.S. Treasury has received an additional \$12.05 billion in return for its investment:**
 - **\$9.15 billion** in dividends
 - **\$2.9 billion** from repurchased warrants

Democrats Improved Bush Administration's Initial Proposal, Helped Protect Taxpayers

One year ago, when our financial system was on the verge of an impending collapse, the Bush Administration presented a proposal with no oversight or protection for American taxpayers. Democrats fought to add provisions to ensure that taxpayers would be repaid - with interest - and that there would be rigorous oversight of how taxpayer dollars are spent. These provisions include:

- Strong independent oversight and transparency by the Congressional Oversight Panel;
- Ongoing audits and oversight by the Government Accountability Office;
- Limits on excessive compensation for CEOs and executives of participating financial institutions;
- Making sure that taxpayers share in any profits resulting from the government's help; and
- Actions to prevent the foreclosures that are driving down home values across America.