

House Committee on the Budget

Member Day Hearing

December 3, 2025

Written Testimony of Representative Beth Van Duyne, TX-24

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you to the members of the Budget Committee for having me here today to testify.

Before I begin, I want to take a minute to thank Chairman Jodey Arrington. Jodey is a mentor and a friend—and honestly, the guy who keeps the rest of us from losing our minds when the budget numbers start doing backflips. When everyone else is staring at a chart wondering how things got *that* bad, Jodey's the one who shrugs and says, "Alright, here's how we fix it."

I currently serve as Chair of the Republican Study Committee's Budget and Spending Task Force. The RSC has long served as the conservative conscience of the House of Representatives, and as Chair, I have prioritized a return to pre-pandemic spending levels and a balanced federal budget as soon as possible—whether that's in seven or ten years.

Since January, the Task Force has been working with RSC Members, this Committee, the White House, OMB Director Vought, and a wide range of outside stakeholders to gather proposals aimed at addressing the nation's fiscal challenges.

In recent years, federal spending and regulatory activity have grown significantly, and unfortunately, the extreme spending of the Biden Administration has further worsened the national debt and long-term fiscal pressures. In addition to adding \$1.8 trillion in new regulatory burdens, the Biden White House ushered in an era of unsustainable debt that we must now confront.

The Task Force has worked diligently to identify options to bring spending back in line while championing the policies of the Working Families Tax Cuts Act. Addressing the national debt requires difficult decisions, but we believe reasonable, achievable steps exist—many of which are outlined in the RSC's annual budget.

The RSC budget is built around a simple but essential principle: **Washington must live within its means.** For too long, federal spending has grown faster than the economy, faster than family incomes, and faster than anything the taxpayers who fund this government can reasonably sustain. Every year we delay course correction, the mountain gets steeper and the consequences get more severe.

That's why our budget provides a clear, credible path back to balance—one rooted in conservative principles and fiscal reality. Because balancing the budget isn't just a policy goal; it's a moral responsibility. Every dollar we borrow today is a dollar our kids and grandkids will be forced to repay with interest. They didn't make these decisions, but if we don't act, they will inherit the consequences.

Our budget reins in out-of-control spending, restores discipline to the appropriations process, slows the autopilot growth of mandatory programs, and targets waste, duplication, and mission creep across the federal government. And it doesn't stop there. It advances pro-growth tax policy, reduces regulatory burdens, and unleashes American energy—because balancing the budget isn't just about cutting the federal checkbook; it's about strengthening the economy so families can thrive.

Ultimately, the RSC budget is a roadmap designed to protect the next generation—to ensure they inherit opportunity, not overwhelming debt; growth, not stagnation; and freedom, not a future bound by Washington's irresponsible choices.

I look forward to working with this Committee on advancing many of the proposals in the RSC budget, and I yield back my time.