



July 8, 2010



Dear Alaskan Senior,

The Republican Primary election is right around the corner. On August 24th you will have a decision to make. The choice is stark: continue on the path toward national insolvency, or change course. Your decision will have profound consequences for the future of our country.

Because I have had the temerity to suggest that the federal government will have to make cuts to avoid a debt crisis, **my critics have alleged that I intend to cut your Social Security and Medicare benefits. Not true! I will not vote to cut your Social Security or Medicare benefits!**

My own parents collect Social Security benefits and use Medicare. They, like millions of others, need and relied on the government's promise to provide these benefits when they were planning for their future. There is a contract between the federal government and those who paid into the system. **That contract must be honored.**

Make no mistake about it; cuts will have to be made to the federal budget, if we are to avoid the fate Greece, where both government employees and those receiving their equivalent of Social Security faced sudden and massive cuts to their benefits.

We don't have to look overseas to see these sorts of sudden shocks caused by governments being unable to pay their bills. California has had to cut Medicaid entitlement programs by hundreds of millions, furlough thousands of government employees, and force thousands of others back to minimum wage because it simply does not have the money to pay its bills. States like Illinois and New York are also facing similar futures.

We either start electing officials who will make the tough decisions now or face much more catastrophic consequences in the not too distant future.

There are many examples of cuts that could be made and that would be relatively painless to the American public including: foreign aid, funding to the United Nations, funding to the International Monetary Fund, corporate welfare, elimination of more than 640 duplicative federal programs, elimination of programs rated ineffective by the Office of Management and Budget, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Dept. of Education. Additionally, the cost of illegal aliens in this country also runs into the hundreds of billions of dollars. We need to secure our borders and not reward illegal's for coming and staying in our country.

Further, we can also free up more funds for the promises we've already made to the American people by repealing Obamacare. I pledge to do just that and have signed the DefundIt Pledge, which my opponent has not. In fact Senator Murkowski refused to endorse a Republican bill this month, which would repeal Obamacare. (See The Hill, July 5, 2010). Part of the program is paid for by supposed savings of hundreds of billions to be carved out of the Medicare program. Obamacare is a trillion-dollar plus boondoggle, which is an imminent threat to your healthcare! It will result in fewer physicians, higher healthcare costs, lower quality of care, and add significantly to the National Debt.

If Congress is unwilling to make hard decisions now, and begin to cut nonessential programs and services, your Social Security payments and Medicare benefits will be cut. Slashing these essential services to seniors who are dependent on them is unacceptable.

I believe you deserve a return on your investment, and I'm committed to protecting that trust. Anyone who tells you different is selling you a bill of goods.

Senator Murkowski could have used her time in the United States Senate to work for solutions, but she was too busy spending your money, and trading votes for the pet projects of her special interests. Under the Republican-controlled Congress during the last decade (of which she was part), domestic (nonmilitary) spending went up 36%. That was the highest rate of increase since the hay days of the Great Society. Senator Murkowski was right in the middle of this increase, voting for bill after bill, which added hundreds of billions to the federal budget and increased the National Debt. President Obama and the Democrats have only pressed the accelerator down even further.

The President projects trillion-dollar deficits as far as the eye can see. It is estimated that our National Debt will reach 100% of our GDP within the year. I don't have to tell you this is unsustainable, but apparently common sense is in short supply in Washington D.C. these days.

The National Debt is beginning to have a debilitating effect on our economy as well and threatens to undermine any hope of recovery in the short term. Just last week the New York Times ran a column raising the specter of whether we are entering the second economic depression of the last century. That is a nightmare that no American should ever have to face, and it is totally unnecessary. Those most vulnerable in such a downturn will be those most dependent on the federal government.

The words of Ronald Reagan were never more poignant, “In this present crisis, government is not the solution to our problems, government is the problem.” It is time to send a Senator to Washington who understands the seriousness of the times, and has the will and moral courage to stand up to the big spenders, and the encroaching tyranny of the Federal government.

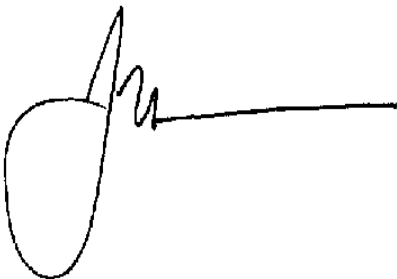
Ignoring the problem will not make it go away; we must face it. We can cut spending, get our deficits under control, and make real reforms that will allow future generations to prepare for their retirement years, or we can continue to ignore the problem until it is too late, leaving millions of Americans high and dry.

We must act quickly to ensure that we have a system in place that your children and grandchildren can count on. **You have my word that I will spend my time in Washington fighting for reforms that will leave a sustainable future for generations yet to come! And I will fight to protect your Social Security and Medicare benefits in the mean time!**

On August 24th you have a choice to make. You can ignore the impending crisis and vote for the 'business as usual' incumbent, or you can choose a sustainable path that will preserve our way of life. I hope you will choose to take action now to protect the future of our great state, and our country. If we act judiciously, together we can preserve our social structure and forge a brighter future for those who come behind us.

On August 24th vote Joe Miller for US Senate!

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Joe Miller Candidate for United States Senate



P.S. – My opponent has taken millions of dollars from outside special interests. **Please send a contribution of any amount** (individual maximum - \$2400). **With your help, we can make a difference!**