

Message of the Week

April 2-8, 2003

Presented by Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN)

“Congress should pass the full Bush Economic Growth Package in its original form.”

- The non-partisan Heritage Foundation reports that President Bush’s economic growth package would lead to an annual average of:
 - 844,000 new jobs from 2004 through 2013 (with the highest levels of job creation coming in 2004 and 2005);
 - \$69 billion in additional GDP from 2004 through 2013 (with an \$84 billion GDP increase in 2004); and
 - \$121 billion in additional disposable income from 2004 through 2013 (with a \$178 billion increase in 2004).
- The Breaux Amendment that passed the Senate would slash the value of the Bush tax cut by \$376 billion over ten years, decimating the stimulative effects of the Growth Package.
- Wall Street agreed. As soon as word got out about the passage of the Breaux Amendment, the market tumbled, erasing much of the gains from the previous five hours of trading. See this chart: <http://www.house.gov/burton/RSC/StockPlungeChart.pdf>
- The problem with the budget in Washington is the increase in federal spending—not the proposed tax cut. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office found that the \$340 billion of increased spending over ten years would *sharply* curtail the estimated benefits of the Bush Economic Growth Package.
- **If Congress found it as easy to cut spending as it does to slash tax-cuts, the federal balance-sheet would be much more in order and the full potential of the American economy would be unleashed.**