

DAWN A. WILLIAMS, DEPUTY STATE TREASURER

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Meier urges Congress to address national debt

State financial officers across the country want long-term plan implemented

CHEYENNE – Wyoming State Treasurer Curt Meier and dozens of other state financial officers sent a letter to each member of Congress earlier this week imploring them to develop and implement a long-term plan to remedy the growing national debt.

"Our country's national debt has gotten out of hand and there is no relief in sight," Meier said. "This is an issue that should be a 'day one' priority from our Congressional leaders, regardless of their political affiliation."

In 2023 alone, the federal government collected \$4.5 trillion in revenue but spent more than \$6.3 trillion – a difference of \$1.8 trillion. In addition, the annual interest payment on the country's \$35 trillion debt exceeds the annual budget for national defense and Medicare.

In their joint letter, these officers concur with Senate Resolution 600 and House Resolution 190 and declare the deteriorating federal financial situation a "national security threat" and "unsustainable and dangerous."

"We need to take this action in order to ensure that future generations are not overburdened with reckless spending," Meier said. "Our debt will continue to spiral out of control if we do not take immediate action."

The officers encourage the following action items:

- Ensure total federal government spending in 2025 is less than it was in 2024
- Create a path to a balanced budget as soon as possible
- Cut red tape to unleash economic growth and the nation's vast natural resources

- More -

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The state financial officers are pushing for a fiscal recovery plan to be ratified in the next Congress and under a new president by 2026 when the country will mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. As stated in the letter, they ask Congress "to make restoring America's financial solvency a Day One priority for the sake of our states and the country," and conclude by saying, "Our hard-won independence depends on it."

- End -

A copy of the letter issued to all 535 voting members of Congress is also attached.