


## How Would YOU Spend 100 Billion Dollars?

Right now in Washington, Congress is debating various "stimulus plans" that are supposed to boost the economy. People across the country have different ideas about how this stimulus should be set up. Some people want the government to cut taxes on corporations and wealthy individuals. Some people want the government to spend more money on programs like unemployment or school construction. Some people want a combination of the two.

 **With your group** read the plans below. They come from politicians in Washington D.C., *and* regular people like us. What do you like about the plans? What don't you like? Give reasons for your answers.

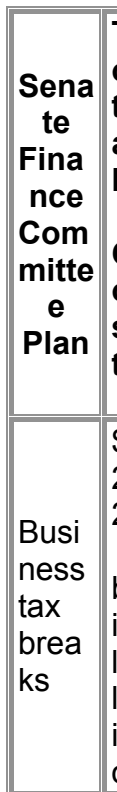
Here is the **\$66 billion dollar plan** from the Senate.

### Sample Plan in billions of dollars



	Tax Cuts	Income Security & Social Programs	Public Works
For low and moderate income		\$30	
Unemployment		\$30	
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
Health care		\$20	
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education		\$20	
<input type="checkbox"/>			

– Robert Merrill  
Atlanta, Georgia



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Tax rebates for low-income taxpayers who missed out on rebates earlier in 2001	\$ 4 k i l i c r
Unemployment insurance : 13-week extension	\$ 4 k i l i c r
Health care assistance	\$ 4 k i l i c r
Farm	\$

assis tanc e	
Tax Brea k "Exte nder s" (for inves tmen t in Lowe r Man hatta n)	
\$66 billion	

More sample plans: These are plans submitted to recoverywatchdog.org from people around the country.

- \$20 billion: School Reform & Building
- \$20 billion: Alternative Energy
- \$20 billion: Natl. Mass Transit system
- \$10 billion: Renewing Domestic Farming
- \$10 billion: Natl. Health Care Program
- \$10 billion: Forming Living Wage Program
- \$10 billion: Mandatory Recycling Program

– Mindy Stone  
Vero Beach, Florida

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- \$10 billion: Alternative energy
  - \$20 billion: Education
  - \$20 billion: Health care
  - \$10 billion: Rail/public transportation
  - \$5 billion: Parks
  - \$5 billion: The Arts
  - \$10 billion: Low cost / affordable housing
  - \$10 billion: Unemployment
  - \$10 billion: National Food / Hunger programs

– Monika Antonelli  
Denton, Texas

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- \$20 billion: Amtrak expansion
  - \$20 billion: School construction
  - \$20 billion: Extension of unemployment benefits
  - \$20 billion: Solar energy research and implementation
  - \$10 billion: Child care programs
  - \$10 billion: Increased airport security

– Sean Feder  
Davis, California

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- \$30 billion: Public Education
  - \$15 billion: Research and Development of Alternative Energy Sources and Transportation

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- \$20 billion: Alternative Energy Sources and Transportation Consumer Incentives
- \$20 billion: Small Business Loans and Incentives
- \$15 billion: Home Computer Tax Breaks

– Sandra Cardoza  
San Francisco, California



**We want to know:** How would YOU spend \$100 Billion to boost the economy? It's your job to divide up \$100 billion among:

**Tax Cuts**  
**Income Security & Social Programs**  
**Public Works**

**1. Use this grid to design your plan with your group.** Choose from the suggested items or write in your own. Put a price in billions of dollars next to each item, so that it all adds up to \$100 billion.

**Tax Cuts**  
**Income Security & Social Programs**  
**Public Works**

**Item**  
**Cost**  
in billions  
**Item**  
**Cost**  
in billions  
**Item**  
**Cost**  
in billions

For Top 1% (Family Income: Over \$384,000)

Unemployment

School construction

For Upper Income (Family Income: \$153,000 - \$384,000)

Health Care

Small business development

For Upper Middle Income (Family Income: \$75,000 - \$153,000)

Food Assistance

Housing

For Low and Moderate Income (Family Income: Less than \$75,000)

Welfare

Amtrak

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For Corporations

Child Care

Transportation

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Education

Industrial rebuilding

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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Your **Total Stimulus Package** should total \$100 billion. You can submit your plan to the Recovery Watchdog website at the address above. They will send your suggestion to Congress.