

Executive Alert Extra

VOL. XIII, No. 5

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NCPA

SEPT./OCT., 2007

The Rest of the (SiCKO) Story

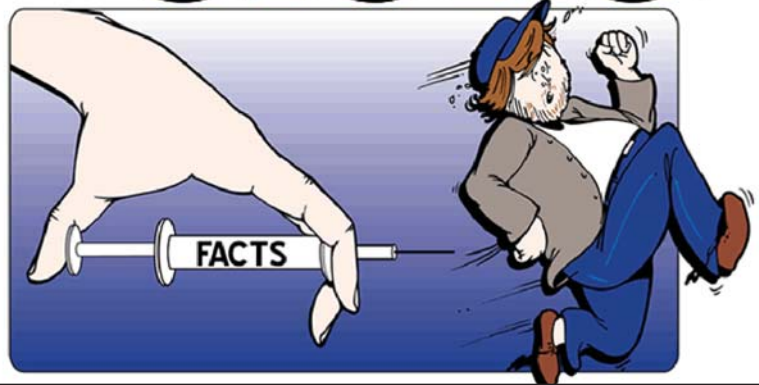
The NCPA has unveiled a new site to respond to issues raised (and not raised) in Michael Moore's movie SiCKO. At his own site, Michael invites visitors to send him health horror stories—but only about the U.S. system. To add balance, our site features health horror stories from Canada, France, Britain and other developed countries. Our site also contains an extensive collection of reviews that you are unlikely to find on Moore's own Web site. To quote Michael: "This may hurt a little."

To view the website, go to: <http://sicko.ncpa.org/>

Topics concerning...

Michael Moore's movie:

SiCKO



The Federal Role in State Health Care

Before Congress recessed in August, debate over expansion of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP) reached a full boil. And the NCPA was center stage in providing the critical policy analysis. In a special commentary for *The Wall Street Journal*, NCPA President John Goodman explained the proposed expansion would be bad for children, seniors and the poor.

Goodman (top right) also discussed S-CHIP expansion at an NCPA briefing on Capitol Hill, hosted by Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC).

NCPA Senior Fellow Michael Bond (right) discussed what



states can do to reform their health care systems. Bond told a standing-room only crowd of Capitol Hill staffers and national media that Medicaid is on a course to bankrupt state governments within the next few years if reforms are not made.

NCPA To Publish Handbook on State Healthcare Reform—see page 4.

How Big Should Government Be?— NCPA Capitol Hill Conference

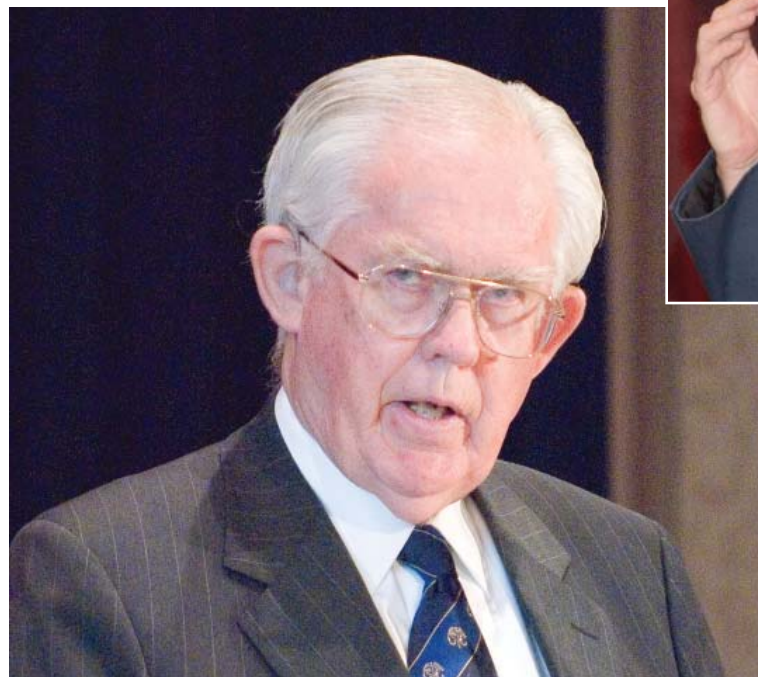
The National Tax Limitation Committee (NTLC) joined with the NCPA to sponsor a day-long Capitol Hill conference focusing on NCPA Senior Fellow Gerald Scully's (below) study on the optimal fiscal size of government, which includes federal, state and local governments.



William Niskanen (below), chairman of the Cato Institute and former acting chairman of President Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, and Richard Vedder (right), Distinguished Professor at Ohio University and former economist with the Joint Economic Committee of Congress.



NTLC President Lew Uhler and NCPA Distinguished Fellow Bob McTeer (above). Steve Entin (near left), president and executive director of the Institute for Research on the Economics of Taxation and author of several NCPA studies.

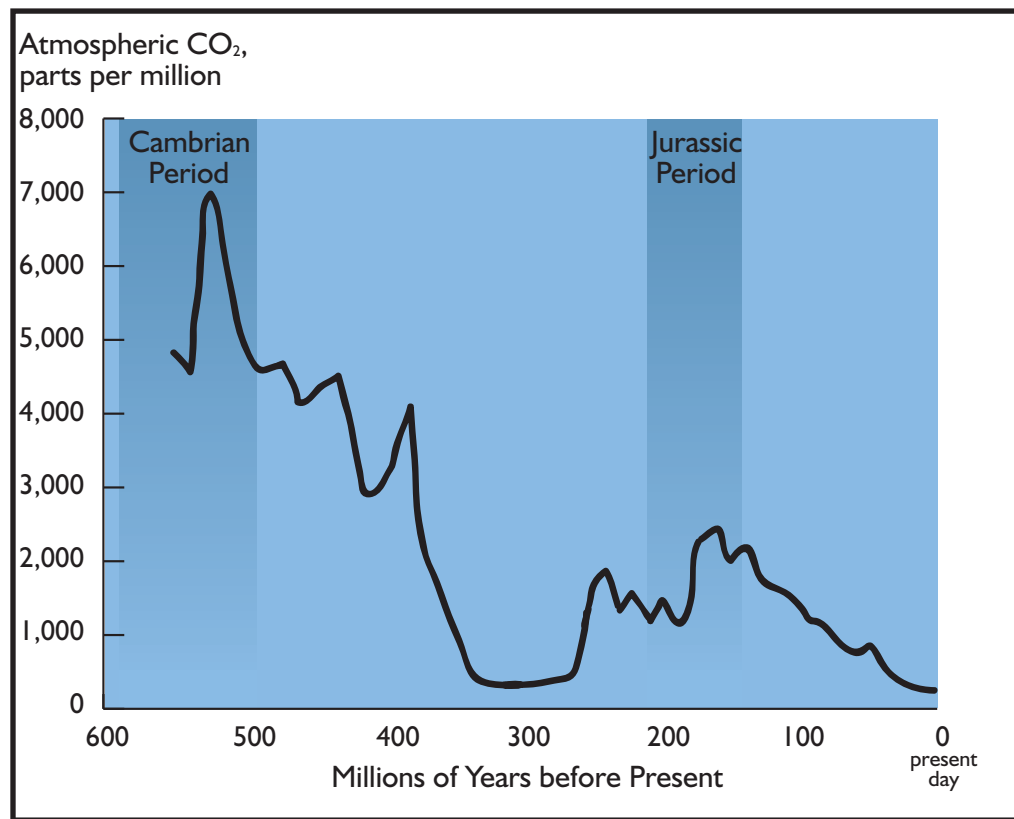


Scully has concluded that the optimal fiscal size of government is about 23 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), about 10 percentage points lower than it is today.

“For each percent of growth in government between 1950 and 2004 the growth rate of GDP per capita fell 0.1 percent. So each additional \$1 of tax caused a \$2.17 loss in economic growth,” Scully said, adding that “Excessive taxation arises simply because the tax rate consistent with political equilibrium among competing special interest groups exceeds the rate that maximizes economic growth.”

NCPA Releases New Primer on Global Warming and Climate Change

The NCPA recently released a primer to explore the science of global warming in a nonpartisan way. Using simple charts and graphs, the primer shows, for example, how CO₂ levels—thought to be a major factor in manmade global warming—are actually at historic lows (see graph).



“The recent revelation that, contrary to NASA’s earlier findings, 1998 was not the warmest year in the U.S. and that most of the 10 warmest years occurred before 85 percent of the human greenhouse gases entered the atmosphere underscores the need for a more scientific approach to climate change,” said NCPA Senior Fellow H. Sterling Burnett. “That’s what this primer does.”

The NCPA’s global warming primer is based on an extensive review of available scientific research and allows readers to draw their own conclusions about climate change.

Please contact the NCPA development department at (972) 386-6272 to help us with printing costs and to help in distributing the primer to others, such as schools and community groups.

TV Networks Call On McTeer During Fed Crisis

When the collapse in the subprime credit market rocked Wall Street, the major cable TV networks called on NCPA Distinguished Fellow Bob McTeer for analysis. He discussed the response by the Federal Reserve during several appearances on Bloomberg and CNBC. Fed Chairman



Ben Bernanke “didn’t want to bail out risky business but rightly wanted to let market discipline work,” McTeer said. His analysis was also covered extensively in the print media, highlighted by an editorial in *The Dallas Morning News*, and comments in the *Boston Globe*, *Houston Chronicle* and others.

NCPA To Publish State Handbook on Health Care Reform

The NCPA has posted an online draft of a new *Handbook on State Healthcare Reform*. The handbook will be published at the State Policy Network's annual meeting in October. You can access the draft at http://www.ncpa.org/email/State_HC_Reform_6-8-07.pdf.

"State health care costs are out of control," said co-author Senior Fellow Michael Bond at the NCPA Capitol Hill briefing. "And the federal government can help rather than hinder in lowering costs and improving access to quality health care."

Bond has developed Medicaid reform plans in Florida, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Kansas, among others. And NCPA President John C. Goodman recently met with the governor and lieutenant governor of Georgia and previously advised presidential candidate and former Governor Mitt Romney on market-based health care reform in Massachusetts.

Goodman, Bond and NCPA Senior Fellows Devon Herrick and Gerald Musgrave co-authored the handbook.



NCPA Welcomes New Controller

Susan Arnett is the NCPA's new controller. Arnett, formerly the Chief Financial Officer at ChildCareGroup, a 250-employee nonprofit organization with \$50 million in revenues, will oversee all accounting and financial functions for the NCPA.

Arnett has more than 20 years' experience in financial management in real estate, construction, property management, education and nonprofit industries.



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Events Schedule



September 25, 2007

Linda Chavez

Chair, Center for Equal Opportunity, syndicated columnist and political analyst



October 16, 2007

Michael Barone

Senior Writer, U.S. News & World Report



November 2, 2007

Jeb Bush

former Governor of Florida