

Writing Assignment #3

For your final writing assignment of the semester, I would like you to explore one thing that could be done to reduce the federal budget deficit. You will propose a specific way to reduce the federal deficit, explain how it will affect the deficit, and discuss how likely the proposal is to become law. Write a short paper (3-5 pages) that outlines the following:

1. What is your deficit-reducing proposal?

Pick a budget-reducing proposal from the budget balancing exercise (<http://www.crfb.org/debtfixer/>). Research this proposal in more detail. Describe the details of the proposal you choose. I recommend that you explain how any current program you are proposing a change to works, and how your proposal will change that program. Be specific with your proposal and use references where appropriate.

2. What effect will your proposal have?

Explain how you expect your proposal will affect the budget. Discuss how certain you are about the fiscal impact of your proposal. Use references as necessary.

3. How likely is it that your proposal would become law?

Who would support your proposal? Who would oppose it? Knowing how difficult it is to pass laws in the United States, assess whether or not your proposal has any chance of becoming law (Would it pass the House? Senate? Would the president veto your proposal? Here is your chance to show off all the bill-becomes-a-law knowledge that you have acquired this semester.)

The assignment will be graded based on its overall quality. Quality of references, quality of analysis, clarity of writing, organization, and grammar will all be considered. The assignment is due April 28.