

# THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



## Wicker Breaks Down the ‘Green New Deal’

*Socialist-Inspired Proposal Would Bankrupt America*

The “Green New Deal” is perhaps the most expensive and economically disastrous legislation ever proposed. The socialist-inspired plan aims to remake America’s economy and society through a radical new approach to energy, infrastructure, and the role of government. New research from the American Action Forum estimates the proposal would cost taxpayers up to \$93 trillion - more than four times the annual value of all economic activity in the United States.

Put another way, the Green New Deal proposes to spend more money than the entire recorded spending of the federal government since the Constitution went into effect in 1789.

Proponents of the deal say that the legislation would be paid for by increasing taxes on the wealthiest Americans. However, the math does not work. At a cost of about \$650,000 per American household, nearly 90 percent of all American assets, wealth, and property would need to be exchanged to pay this hefty price tag.

### An Unrealistic and Unachievable Proposal

The Green New Deal requires such an enormous cost because it would mandate goals that are unrealistic and unachievable - not to mention bad policy. The plan calls for a switch to 100 percent renewable fuels within a decade. Wind and solar power currently account for

only eight percent of America’s energy and only three percent of energy generated in Mississippi.

Eliminating the use of America’s abundant and affordable coal, oil, and gas resources would not only devastate these industries and the communities they support but also burden all Americans with extremely high energy bills. The plan includes the elimination of gas-powered vehicles, including airplanes, and requires a costly expansion of emissions-free public transportation systems. This would require the replacement of 99 percent of all vehicles - a tremendous waste of resources - and would isolate those in rural states like Mississippi.

The Green New Deal also contradicts the reality of America’s current energy revolution. Over the past decade, new drilling techniques and technology have transformed our country into a net-exporter of energy.

Lower energy costs have helped fuel our economic resurgence.

### Socialism’s False Promises

The demands of the Green New Deal go well beyond energy. The plan also would guarantee housing, health care, high-wage jobs, food, and paid vacations for all Americans, including those “unwilling to work.” From the Soviet Union to Venezuela, the failures of socialism are proof that government control cannot produce economic prosperity.

It would be easy to dismiss the Green New Deal as an absurd proposal, yet many are taking it seriously. The resolution has the support of 90 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and 12 members of the U.S. Senate. Several candidates for President of the United States also have voiced their approval.

The push for a Green New Deal makes even less sense given the success of Republican policies in jump starting our economy with lower

taxes and fewer unnecessary regulations. Our economy grew at a rate of nearly three percent last year. More Americans are working than ever before and wages are

growing. As our quality of life continues to improve and new opportunities abound for our people, the last thing we need is a Green New Deal.



### Play it smart

Dear Dave,

Recently, the garage where I worked for a long time went out of business. I have a lot of my own tools, and I was thinking about taking out a loan of around \$20,000 to buy a few extra tools I need to open my own garage. It’s always been a dream of mine to have my own shop, and this seems like the perfect opportunity. What do you think?

Rick

Dear Rick,

I love it when a person has the talent and drive to open their own business, but right now you’re unemployed and looking at going into debt. That’s a bad idea.

You’ll never hear me recommend going into debt to start a business. Did you know most new businesses fail within the first five years due to debt payments? I literally started my company on a card table in my own living room years ago, so I know for a fact you can launch a business without going into debt.

You said you have your own tools, plus you have lots of experience. My advice is to find a place that needs a good mechanic. Then, use the income from a new job to save up for the additional tools you need, and other startup costs associated with opening your own shop. If you play this smart and start slow, you could have a thriving business on your hands in a few years and no debt to eat up the money you make!

Dave

**Get off the account today!**  
Dear Dave,

I opened a credit card account with a boyfriend several months ago in both of our names. We’re no longer dating, and I was wondering if I can get my name off the account.

Melody

Dear Melody,

Yes, you can. Call the credit card company right now, and tell them to take your name off the account immediately. Find out if there’s a balance on the card. If there is, and it was charged up while your name was on the account, you’ll still be liable for that amount.

They won’t release you from responsibility for those purchases, but you can get off the hook for any future charges.

Then, send them a certified letter—return receipt requested—stating that you are no longer liable for additional charges on the card going forward. It wouldn’t be a bad idea to call them again in a few days to make sure they got the letter, too.

You’re learning a hard lesson here, Melody. You should never open any kind of joint account with someone when you’re not married. And stop using credit cards!

—Dave

*\*Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.*

**1st March**  
**ACROSS**  
1 Off-key  
5 \_\_\_ song (final performance)  
9 In the distance  
13 Dross  
17 Ethel, in “Gypsy”  
18 Staff officer  
19 In arrears  
20 After hard or silver  
21 Field  
22 Manitoba tribe  
23 The Four \_\_\_ ('50s group)  
24 Diabolical  
25 Scone’s kin  
27 Bell the cat  
29 Principles  
31 Towel word  
32 Slender  
33 Make corrections  
34 \_\_\_ guitar  
37 Be prolific  
38 Of the utmost urgency  
42 Saline drop

43 Ginger’s “Top Hat” costar  
44 Unfilled  
45 “Meet John \_\_\_”  
46 Overhead trains  
47 Take a tumble  
48 Home run, informally  
49 Casino draw  
50 Makes happy  
52 Soapbox  
racer’s start  
53 Hammer parts  
54 Cobb’s clobberer  
55 Nibble on forage  
56 By means of  
57 Like many negligees  
60 Put one’s finger on  
61 Billy Pilgrim’s Tralfamadore companion  
65 Animal hide  
66 Dill swill  
67 Velocity  
68 Cartoon Chihuahua  
69 Novelist Levin  
70 Single

71 Links cry  
72 Full \_\_\_ (maximum)  
73 Urban abode  
75 Sigher’s word  
76 Ph.D. tests  
77 Hawaiian goose  
78 Limo passengers’ destination  
79 “\_\_\_ Verum Corpus”  
80 Leave high and dry  
83 Legal equal  
84 Biased  
88 Roberts of “Star 80”  
89 Cleveland’s waterfront  
91 Pagan god  
93 Vetch  
94 \_\_\_ up (contained)  
95 Gather no moss?  
96 First name of NASCAR fame  
97 Spicy stew  
98 Danson and Turner  
99 Looks at

100 Yemen seaport  
101 Require  
**DOWN**  
1 College gp.  
2 Erudition  
3 Really confused  
4 Pedagogue  
5 “Uncle Tungsten” author  
6 Wild bird’s perch  
7 Lemon refresher  
8 Taunted  
9 False \_\_\_  
10 Helen’s launched 1,000 ships  
11 Had a meal  
12 Medical position  
13 Cavity causes  
14 Volcano effluvia  
15 Bittersweet covering  
16 Some tooth-pastes  
26 Be miserable  
28 Goal  
30 LP  
32 Permeate  
33 Remove a

mistake  
34 Part of a procedure  
35 Recount  
36 Nonchalance  
37 Baseball Hall of Famer Speaker  
38 Dinner dish  
39 Unemployed  
40 Time of short shadows  
41 Secures  
43 Guitar bar  
44 Bonfire  
47 Nicholas or Alexander  
48 Make steady  
49 Theater unit  
51 Help a hood  
52 Everglades wader  
53 Source of pitch  
55 Glimmer  
56 Show of hands, e.g.  
57 Rotisserie part  
58 “\_\_\_ goes nothing!”  
59 Dash  
60 Liable (to)  
61 God of war  
62 Diva’s solo  
63 “Old Curiosity Shop” heroine  
64 “Indy 4” creepy-crawlies  
66 Popular party guests  
67 Stray  
70 Response from the flock  
71 Sunshine State  
72 “\_\_\_ Makes, The World Takes”  
74 Passes a law  
75 “Come as You \_\_\_”  
76 Female reproductive cells  
78 Skins  
79 Actress Karen  
80 Equinox mo.  
81 Renewable resource  
82 Fruity detritus  
83 Heap  
84 Shoe part  
85 Narrative  
86 Perry’s creator  
87 Like a useless battery  
90 Caviar base  
92 Willy, to Biff and Happy

