



BEYOND BALANCED BUDGET MANIA

An *Agenda for Shared Prosperity* forum

Sponsored by EPI and the Institute for America's Future
1333 H Street, NW; East Tower, Suite 300

Thursday, April 12, 2007, 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM Eastern

Please join us for a discussion that challenges the prevailing, but ultimately misguided notion that budget policy should single-mindedly focus on balancing the budget in the short-term and on fixing a so-called "entitlements crisis" in the long-term. Instead of fixating on balancing the budget at all costs, budget policy really should be about prioritizing the nation's various needs, including public investments in such areas as early childhood development, access to higher education, universal broadband, renewable energy, and so on. As for the long-term deficit problem, describing it as an "entitlements crisis" obscures the fact that what the nation is actually dealing with is a crisis in escalating public and private health care costs that can only be addressed with comprehensive health care reform.

REGISTRATION

1:30-2:00 pm

KEYNOTE & DISCUSSION

Joseph Stiglitz

Professor, Columbia University
Nobel Laureate, economics 2001

Getting Beyond Balanced Budget Mania and Addressing the Nation's Needs

PANEL PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Henry Aaron

Senior Fellow in the Economic Studies Program at the Brookings Institution
Chronic Deficits: Entitlement Crisis or Health Care Reform Crisis?

Joan Lombardi

Director, The Children's Project
Chair, Birth to Five Policy Alliance

Investing in Early Childhood Development: Science, Benefits, & Common Sense

Max Sawicky

Economist, Economic Policy Institute
Why Public Investment Matters

RSVP: [Click here](#) to reserve your seat today, or contact events@epi.org