



What's More Important? Giving a handout to a big corporation or Supporting our troops in the Middle East?

Easy budget question, right? Wrong.

Since 2000, the U.S. government has handed more than *three quarters of a billion dollars* in general treasury revenues to certain big corporations instead of using this money for important budget priorities that could include everything from military spending to school lunches.

The handouts are a result of a law called the Continued Dumping and Subsidy Offset Act of 2000, also known as the Byrd Amendment.

The revenues in question are border taxes known as "dumping duties" designed to reduce foreign competition in our marketplace. Companies who convince the U.S. to impose these taxes receive a huge break because the taxes increase the prices of their foreign competitors' goods.

Under the Byrd Amendment, these companies also get to collect and keep the revenues themselves.

Americans pay twice: first through higher prices and second when millions in tax revenue flows to a small handful of special interests instead of going into the treasury to support national priorities. President Bush has referred to this as "double dipping" and has called for repeal of the Byrd Amendment.

The WTO has twice ruled the Byrd Amendment to be illegal and the EU and Japan are currently planning to impose retaliatory tariffs against our exports to the tune of \$225 million. Clearly it is time for the Byrd Amendment to go.

Consumers for World Trade Urges Congress to Repeal the Byrd Amendment without Delay



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