"What's love got to do with it?"

The words of Tina Turner's great song keep going through my head as I write this. What's Federal Government got to do with it?

Most Americans want Government to provide national defense, police protection and highways. After that, how much Government do we want? Opinions vary.

Every time I turn around I hear someone mention they are applying for a grant to pay for this or that. We print \$85 billion a month because China and other countries don't want to buy our debt anymore.

- Wisconsin \$8.2 million for a proposed 2-mile expansion of Kenosha's downtown streetcar route.
- Illinois \$25 million to the University of Illinois to study how to increase soybean yields in Africa. This might be wonderful for Africa but is it the best use of our paychecks?
- Pennsylvania \$51.7 million "Race to the Top" grant for education programs.
- California \$135 million to expand light rail in Sacramento to Cosumnes River College. The largest competitive federal grant ever awarded to Sacramento for a transit project.
- Texas \$1.7 million to the University of Texas at Austin to study methane hydrates (ice-like crystals under the sea floor with trapped methane gas).
- Georgia \$275,000 to a professor at Georgia State University to study youth's attitudes toward flavored tobacco.
- Washington \$1.7 million to Washington State University for the study of the emergence, transmission and evolution of Tasmanian devil facial tumor disease.
- Minnesota \$3.1 million to Minnesota's St. Cloud Regional Airport, even though it has no daily commercial service.

Is this the best use of our paychecks? What are we gonna do?







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