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## **Stimulus plan – vengeance and pay-back rule the day**

*Steve Bakke  February 16, 2021*



GOP representatives met with President Biden to express their concerns about his \$1.9 trillion plan and suggested an alternative of approximately \$618 billion. A letter on 2/9, (“Is GOP serious about COVID relief?”), compared this to receiving a \$200 thousand offer for a house worth \$600 thousand, writing “That offer.....isn’t worthy of a response.”

Trump’s offer of almost \$2 trillion last fall was ignored by Speaker Pelosi. In today’s political environment it’s not being cynical to assume she was merely denying Trump a “victory.”

This isn’t an issue of stingy vs. generous. It’s all about a shotgun approach by democrats vs. a targeted approach by republicans. Many republicans would settle for a “go big” emergency proposal as long as it focused on solving problems created by COVID.

I have questions for both parties: If it’s so doggone urgent to get these funds working in the economy, why are significant amounts of previous stimulus plans still unspent? And what’s wrong with compromise?

The divided government that has been entertaining us recently resembles a theatrical cast of characters. Players exchange roles based on who is directing this comedy/drama – i.e., which party is in power. Unfortunately, politics and “pay-back” rule the day.