

Supplement

This document provides supplementary material to the main text in “Trust in Government: Narrowing the Ideological Gap over the Federal Budget”. Section 1 of this document contains the survey questions used in the analysis. Section 2 provides descriptive statistics of all variables used in the analysis along with detailed descriptions of each budget line. Section 3 presents alternative model specifications for all model included in the paper. Section 4 offers a robustness check of our macro-level results by using alternative measures of spending and revenue. Section 5 includes analysis on additional spending and revenue categories where an ideological gap between liberals and conservatives was observed in the data. And, finally, Section 6 provides additional data showing the overall balance of the budgets submitted by respondents.

Appendix A: Survey

Survey Prompt

Prompt given before starting the budget simulation:

“The U.S. Federal Government is in debt. In 2017 the government is going to spend approximately \$519 billion more than it will collect in taxes and other revenues. This 1/2 trillion dollars will be added to the debt total which is currently approximately 19 trillion dollars. To put this in perspective, the current debt of the U.S. Government is equal to approximately \$45,000 for every American citizen. With the size of the deficit in mind, we would like to see how you personally would change Federal taxes and/or spending. We have created a budget model based on the actual Federal budget.

In the model you will be able to cut spending in any category where you believe that the Federal government spends too much money and/or increase revenues in any category where you think taxes should be raised. The basic idea is to allow you to change taxes and/or spending in the ways you prefer. The model will only allow spending cuts and/or increases in Federal taxes. You will have 10 minutes to complete the budget model. After completing the model, you will be returned to the survey and asked some follow-up questions.”

Survey Questions and Coding

State of Residence:

“In what state do you currently reside?”: Respondents were given a drop-down list containing all 50 states plus Washington D.C..

Ideology:

“When it comes to politics, do you usually think of yourself as”: 1) Very conservative; 2) Conservative; 3) Somewhat conservative; 4) Moderate or middle of the road; 5) Somewhat liberal; 6) Liberal; 7) Very liberal. We coded the dummy variable for Liberal as “1” if the respondent chose 5,6, or 7; otherwise “0”. We coded the dummy variable for Conservative as “1” if the respondent chose 1,2, or 3; otherwise “0”. Moderate serves as the reference category.

Party ID:

“Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as”: 1) Strong Republican; 2) Weak Republican; 3) Lean Republican; 4) Independent; 5) Lean Democrat; 6) Weak Democrat; 7) Strong Democrat. We coded the dummy variable for Democrat as “1” if the respondent chose 5,6, or 7;

otherwise “0”. We coded the dummy variable for Republican as 1 if the respondent chose 1,2, or 3; otherwise “0”. Independent serves as the reference category.

Trust in Government:

“How often can you trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right?” 1) Never; 2) Sometimes; 3) About half the time; 4) Most of the time; 5) Always

Age:

“In what year were you born?” Continuous measure of age ranging from 18 to 82.

Income:

Over the past year, what was your family’s approximate annual income? 1) Less than \$10,000; 2) \$10,000 - \$19,999; 3) \$20,000 - \$29,999; 4) \$30,000 - \$39,999; 5) \$40,000 - \$49,999; 6) \$50,000 - \$59,999; 7) \$60,000 - \$69,999; 8) \$70,000 - \$79,999; 9) \$80,000 - \$99,999; 10) \$100,000 - \$119,999; 11) \$120,000 - \$149,999; 12) \$150,000 - \$199,999; 13) \$200,000 - \$249,999; 14) \$250,000 - \$349,999; 15) \$350,000 - \$499,999; 15) \$500,000 or more; Prefer not to say (coded as missing).

Education:

“What is the highest level of education you have completed?” 1) Did not graduate from high school; 2) High school graduate; 3) Some college, but no degree; 4) 2-year college degree; 5) 4-year college degree; 6) Post-college graduate degree.

Female:

“What is your gender?” 1) Female; 0) otherwise.

White:

“What racial or ethnic group or groups best describes you?” 1) White; 0) otherwise.

Budget Difficult:

“How difficult was it to create a budget that you would support?” 5) Much harder I expected; 4) Harder than I expected; 3) About what I expected; 2) Easier than I expected; 1) Much easier than I expected.

Appendix B: Descriptive Statistics & Tables

Table 1
Descriptive Statistics

Variable	Obs.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Revenue Count	1,600	3.874	2.930	0	12
Spending Count	1,600	7.259	6.263	0	27
Health Care Spending Cuts	1,600	50.573	138.139	0	1391.2
Economic Security Spending Cuts	1,600	18.534	46.381	0	272.7
Defense Spending Cuts	1,600	59.505	120.005	0	780.6
Revenue from Income Tax	1,600	353.957	469.037	0	5627.45
Revenue from Income Tax (High Earners Only)	1,600	288.083	425.457	0	5627.45
Liberal	1,600	0.298	0.457	0	1

Conservative	1,600	0.370	0.483	0	1
Moderate	1,600	0.332	0.4713	0	1
Trust in Government	1,600	2.403	0.9842	1	5
Income	1,600	6.307	3.248	1	16
Education	1,600	4.018	1.417	1	6
Age	1,598	47.959	16.536	18	82
Female	1,565	0.499	0.500	0	1
Budget Difficult	1,336	2.978	1.209	1	5
White	1,600	0.838	0.368	0	1
Democrat	1,600	0.343	0.475	0	1
Republican	1,600	0.332	0.471	0	1
Total Spending Cuts	1,600	206.824	292.359	0	4153.6
Total Revenue Increased	1,600	434.415	529.079	0	6359.702

Table 2
Tax Items Included in Balancing Act Budget Simulation

Main Line Items	Initial Tax Amount*
Income Tax on Low Incomes (below \$25,800)	-\$35.6
Income Tax on Lower Middle Incomes (between \$25,800-\$50,200)	-\$16.9
Income Tax on Middle Incomes (between \$50,200-\$88,100)	\$95.0
Income Tax on Upper Middle Incomes (between \$88,100-\$151,400)	\$228.7
Income Tax on High Incomes (between \$151,400-\$741,000)	\$687.8
Income Tax on Top 1% of Incomes (over \$741,000)	\$738.7
Social Security Payroll Taxes	\$1,220
Corporate Income Taxes	\$341.9
Estate Tax	\$22.9b
Gas Tax (18.4 cents per gallon)	\$227.4
Other Taxes	\$164.5
Eliminate Income Cap on Social Security	\$0

Amounts reported in billions USD.

Table 3
Spending Items Included in Balancing Act Budget Simulation

Main Line Items	Initial Spending Amount by Main Line Items*	Subcategories under main line items
Economic Security	\$347.7	Family and Nutrition Assistance, Housing Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, Home Mortgage Interest Deduction
Social Security	\$1,100	Average Retirement Benefit, Disability Benefits
Education	\$102.6	K-12 and Vocational Education, Higher Education, Arts, Museums, and Other Social Services, Job Training, Research, and Other Labor Services

All Other Spending	\$77.3	NASA and General Research, Farm Income Stabilization, Community Development
Defense	\$780.6	Military, Veterans Benefits
General Government	\$204.8	Federal Employee Retiree/Disability, Legal, Judicial, and Correctional System, Border Security and Domestic Law Enforcement
Health Care	\$1,400	Medicare, Medicaid, Affordable Care Act Subsidies, Employer Paid Health Insurance Exemption
Foreign and Diplomatic Aid	\$52.4	International Development/Humanitarian Assistance, Foreign Military Aid, Embassies and Diplomatic Affairs
Infrastructure and Development	\$53.0	Highways, Railroads, Other Surface Transportation, Water and Air Transportation

Appendix C: Alternative Model Specifications for Results Presented in Table 1-3 in Main Text

**Table 4
Dependent Variable: Spending Count**

	A1.1	A1.2	A1.3	A1.4	A1.5
Conservative	0.278** (0.048)	0.276** (0.049)	0.434** (0.116)	0.378** (0.142)	0.303* (0.136)
Liberal	-0.491** (0.068)	-0.490** (0.068)	-0.687** (0.164)	-0.773** (0.173)	-0.664** (0.184)
Trust in Government		-0.017 (0.026)	-0.014 (0.043)	-0.063 (0.049)	-0.063 (0.047)
LiberalxTrust			0.080 (0.069)	0.110 (0.078)	0.103 (0.078)
ConservativexTrust			-0.068 (0.049)	-0.029 (0.058)	-0.019 (0.054)
Income				0.016* (0.008)	0.015* (0.008)
Education				0.005 (0.023)	0.006 (0.022)
Age				-0.004* (0.002)	-0.004* (0.002)
Female				-0.112* (0.045)	-0.100* (0.044)
White				0.049 (0.076)	0.012 (0.080)
Budget Difficult				0.104** (0.024)	0.106** (0.024)
Democrat					-0.185**

					(0.058)
Republican					0.032
					(0.061)
Constant	1.979**	2.021**	2.013**	1.859**	1.908**
	(0.037)	(0.075)	(0.103)	(0.168)	(0.168)
ln(α)	-0.352**	-0.352**	-0.358**	-0.389**	-0.398**
	(0.053)	(0.053)	(0.053)	(0.052)	(0.052)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
Log-likelihood	-4783.342	-4783.075	-4779.932	-3857.620	-3853.447
BIC	9596.196	9603.038	9611.508	7808.501	7814.503

The full model (A1.5) is presented in Table 1 Column 1 in the main text. Entries report coefficients from negative binomial regression models and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the count of the number of spending items adjusted in the budget simulation. Statistical significance denoted as: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$. Statistically significant parameter $\ln(\alpha)$ indicates overdispersion.

Table 5
Dependent Variable: Revenue Count

	A2.1	A2.2	A2.3	A2.4	A2.5
Conservative	-0.242**	-0.239**	-0.444**	-0.504**	-0.503**
	(0.052)	(0.053)	(0.153)	(0.173)	(0.176)
Liberal	0.025	0.028	0.078	0.028	-0.008
	(0.042)	(0.041)	(0.109)	(0.140)	(0.143)
Trust in Government		0.060**	0.037	0.000	-0.001
		(0.019)	(0.028)	(0.042)	(0.041)
LiberalxTrust			-0.021	0.024	0.026
			(0.043)	(0.055)	(0.055)
ConservativexTrust			0.085	0.125	0.124
			(0.055)	(0.065)	(0.064)
Income				0.002	0.002
				(0.007)	(0.007)
Education				0.023	0.022
				(0.019)	(0.020)
Age				0.001	0.001
				(0.001)	(0.001)
Female				0.048	0.045
				(0.034)	(0.034)
White				0.031	0.038
				(0.051)	(0.051)
Budget Difficult				0.080**	0.080**
				(0.017)	(0.017)
Democrat					0.078
					(0.044)

Republican					0.034 (0.082)
Constant	1.429** (0.034)	1.282** (0.057)	1.337** (0.075)	0.967** (0.155)	0.949** (0.154)
ln(α)	-0.848** (0.098)	-0.858** (0.098)	-0.864** (0.098)	-0.942** (0.100)	-0.944** (0.101)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
Log-likelihood	-3850.747	-3846.872	-3844.621	-3123.929	-3123.100
BIC	7731.004	7730.632	7740.887	6341.120	6353.809

The full model (A2.5) is presented in Table 1 Column2 in the main text. Entries report coefficients from negative binomial regression models and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the count of the number of revenue items adjusted in the budget simulation. Statistical significance denoted as: * p<0.05; ** p<0.01. Statistically significant parameter ln(α) indicates overdispersion.

Table 6
Dependent Variable: Health Care Spending Cuts

	A3.1	A3.2	A3.3	A3.4	A3.5
Conservative	49.087** (9.070)	47.743** (9.046)	106.078** (29.338)	100.635** (30.393)	100.721** (31.719)
Liberal	-24.096** (6.712)	-24.574** (6.892)	-58.655** (17.168)	-53.451* (20.784)	-41.125* (19.804)
Trust in Government		-14.243** (3.781)	-9.796 (4.916)	-6.399 (6.246)	-5.575 (6.134)
LiberalxTrust			14.181* (6.646)	7.292 (7.088)	6.311 (6.981)
ConservativexTrust			-24.613* (9.562)	-23.020* (9.837)	-22.966* (9.832)
Income				1.141 (1.232)	1.194 (1.238)
Education				0.664 (2.464)	0.909 (2.445)
Age				-0.899** (0.172)	-0.850** (0.173)
Female				-29.216** (5.913)	-27.943** (5.896)
White				19.655** (6.296)	17.656** (6.253)
Budget Difficult				-8.548* (3.325)	-8.558* (3.344)
Democrat					-25.294** (5.786)
Republican					-11.251

					(12.635)
Constant	39.580**	74.438**	63.556**	116.875**	121.798**
	(5.630)	(11.098)	(15.057)	(29.514)	(29.889)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
R²	0.049	0.060	0.073	0.107	0.111
Adjusted R²	0.048	0.058	0.070	0.099	0.102

The full model (A3.5) is presented in Table 2 Column 1 in the main text. Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the reduction in health care spending, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * p<0.05; ** p<0.01.

Table 7
Dependent Variable: Economic Security Spending Cuts

	A4.1	A4.2	A4.3	A4.4	A4.5
Conservative	30.140**	29.675**	60.777**	52.476**	47.357**
	(3.772)	(3.753)	(10.866)	(11.373)	(11.221)
Liberal	-11.260**	-11.425**	-17.470*	-22.767**	-16.711*
	(2.571)	(2.573)	(6.655)	(6.633)	(6.762)
Trust in Government		-4.934**	-1.091	-1.365	-1.392
		(1.240)	(2.481)	(2.205)	(2.125)
LiberalxTrust			2.557	3.410	3.055
			(2.912)	(2.692)	(2.700)
ConservativexTrust			-13.064**	-10.565*	-10.100*
			(4.224)	(4.277)	(4.139)
Income				1.333*	1.263*
				(0.528)	(0.551)
Education				-0.783	-0.714
				(1.011)	(1.003)
Age				-0.191*	-0.171*
				(0.075)	(0.075)
Female				-4.796	-4.309
				(3.191)	(3.287)
White				6.870*	5.080
				(2.754)	(3.003)
Budget Difficult				-3.891*	-3.891*
				(1.843)	(1.843)
Democrat					-9.507**
					(3.213)
Republican					4.130
					(6.186)
Constant	19.891**	31.966**	22.561**	36.922**	39.330**
	(2.373)	(3.521)	(5.153)	(10.038)	(10.071)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305

R²	0.092	0.099	0.112	0.120	0.126
Adjusted R²	0.091	0.097	0.110	0.113	0.117

The full model (A4.5) is presented in Table 2 Column 2 in the main text. Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the reduction in economic security spending, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * p<0.05; ** p<0.01.

Table 8
Dependent Variable: Defense Spending Cuts

	A5.1	A5.2	A5.3	A5.4	A5.5
Conservative	-40.461** (6.285)	-41.666** (6.200)	-66.870** (22.162)	-55.577* (25.508)	-48.120 (26.062)
Liberal	43.747** (8.553)	43.319** (8.337)	71.365** (25.653)	73.479** (24.383)	82.245** (25.546)
Trust in Government		-12.776** (4.374)	-13.080 (7.505)	-9.075 (8.127)	-7.871 (8.079)
LiberalxTrust			-11.623 (9.232)	-17.909 (9.367)	-18.788 (9.474)
ConservativexTrust			10.699 (8.892)	8.851 (10.243)	8.261 (10.357)
Income				-1.192 (1.141)	-1.016 (1.104)
Education				4.029 (2.375)	4.277 (2.380)
Age				-0.980** (0.151)	-0.939** (0.151)
Female				-20.099** (5.780)	-18.996** (5.703)
White				-13.577 (10.901)	-13.841 (11.454)
Budget Difficult				-15.462** (2.185)	-15.477** (2.197)
Democrat					-22.174* (9.817)
Republican					-21.841** (4.454)
Constant	61.461** (5.985)	92.729** (11.468)	93.472** (18.598)	188.219** (24.587)	191.736** (24.747)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
R²	0.081	0.092	0.098	0.159	0.166
Adjusted R²	0.080	0.091	0.095	0.152	0.158

The full model (A5.5) is presented in Table 2 Column 3 in the main text. Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the reduction in defense spending, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$.

Table 9
Dependent Variable: Revenue from Income Tax

	A6.1	A6.2	A6.3	A6.4	A6.5
Conservative	-144.655** (25.687)	-146.096** (26.034)	-227.753** (56.314)	-228.628** (62.885)	-172.232** (62.398)
Liberal	109.304** (35.274)	108.792** (34.972)	151.853 (90.372)	171.062 (112.136)	113.210 (121.723)
Trust in Government		-15.283 (15.573)	-22.071 (22.054)	-9.037 (24.245)	-8.160 (24.644)
LiberalxTrust			-17.933 (34.853)	-35.369 (42.620)	-32.164 (42.364)
ConservativexTrust			34.430 (20.035)	30.989 (21.719)	25.917 (22.970)
Income				-5.323 (3.814)	-4.510 (3.919)
Education				20.002* (8.414)	19.426* (8.170)
Age				1.211 (0.763)	1.027 (0.788)
Female				55.143 (35.826)	50.692 (35.739)
White				-36.031 (32.278)	-17.751 (32.566)
Budget Difficult				-48.946** (10.768)	-48.955** (10.703)
Democrat					86.567 (43.100)
Republican					-53.485* (23.885)
Constant	2072.661** (26.170)	2110.064** (50.952)	2126.677** (63.103)	2152.564** (87.462)	2129.581** (87.311)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
R²	0.049	0.050	0.052	0.076	0.084
Adjusted R²	0.048	0.049	0.049	0.068	0.075

The full model (A6.5) is presented in Table 3 Column 1 in the main text. Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the increased revenue from all income tax brackets, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$.

Table 10
Dependent Variable: Revenue from Income Tax (High Earners Only)

	A7.1	A7.2	A7.3	A7.4	A7.5
Conservative	-127.305** (23.566)	-129.405** (23.779)	-211.904** (54.758)	-216.656** (61.517)	-156.381* (62.186)
Liberal	102.874** (33.627)	102.128** (33.177)	141.725 (89.406)	154.446 (103.748)	94.407 (110.855)
Trust in Government		-22.263 (13.164)	-29.596 (20.326)	-18.378 (22.799)	-17.322 (23.325)
LiberalxTrust			-16.506 (34.579)	-31.581 (39.492)	-28.297 (39.155)
ConservativexTrust			34.767 (20.549)	31.383 (22.675)	25.971 (23.817)
Income				-5.005 (3.334)	-4.130 (3.429)
Education				17.607* (7.736)	17.027* (7.504)
Age				1.574* (0.656)	1.385* (0.668)
Female				52.637 (30.368)	48.064 (30.343)
White				-31.989 (25.908)	-12.745 (26.421)
Budget Difficult				-44.838** (9.543)	-44.850** (9.472)
Democrat					88.852* (38.687)
Republican					-58.775* (22.866)
Constant	1731.080** (24.039)	1785.566** (45.858)	1803.513** (59.433)	1809.384** (73.319)	1785.535** (74.170)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
R²	0.049	0.052	0.054	0.080	0.091
Adjusted R²	0.048	0.050	0.051	0.072	0.082

The full model (A7.5) is presented in Table 3 Column 2 in the main text. Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is the increased revenue from the top two income tax brackets, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * p<0.05; ** p<0.01.

Appendix D: Alternative Measures of Spending and Revenue

As a further robustness check, we also created two additional measures spending and revenue. *Total Spending Cuts* is the sum of all 27 individual spending categories in the simulation, including the three spending categories (health, economic security, and defense) outlined above. The values are expressed in terms of billions USD. *Total Revenue Increased* is a parallel version of *Total Spending Cuts* but for the revenue side. The revenue variable is the sum of all 12 individual revenue categories and includes all income tax brackets. The regression results are presented in Table 11 (*Total Spending Cuts*) and Table 12 (*Total Revenue Increased*). Because both measures are continuous, we estimate the models using OLS regression. We use the same modeling specification as those applied to the spending and revenue categories. Overall, the regression results are consistent with the count measures of spending and revenue.

Table 11
Dependent Variable: Total Spending Cuts

	A8.1	A8.2	A8.3	A8.4	A8.5
Conservative	79.308** (20.995)	75.401** (20.877)	189.081** (59.546)	177.832* (68.617)	169.972* (69.793)
Liberal	-19.212 (18.766)	-20.600 (18.478)	-32.089 (47.601)	-44.181 (53.263)	-5.307 (51.130)
Trust in Government		-41.417** (10.622)	-26.083 (16.954)	-24.945 (15.853)	-23.026 (15.284)
LiberalxTrust			4.973 (17.949)	-4.242 (18.689)	-7.136 (18.421)
ConservativexTrust			-47.697* (22.180)	-38.320 (23.890)	-37.460 (23.322)
Income				1.056 (2.987)	1.071 (2.984)
Education				3.308 (4.809)	3.997 (4.760)
Age				-2.966** (0.324)	-2.818** (0.335)
Female				-71.502** (12.860)	-67.706** (12.768)
White				10.628 (17.367)	3.048 (18.152)
Budget Difficult				-37.191** (7.550)	-37.215** (7.614)
Democrat					-75.167** (15.579)
Republican					-20.265 (24.784)
Constant	183.195** (16.808)	284.559** (28.696)	247.029** (42.683)	506.929** (72.980)	522.437** (73.590)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305

R²	0.022	0.041	0.048	0.122	0.130
Adjusted R²	0.021	0.040	0.045	0.114	0.122

Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is total spending reductions across all 27 spending items in the budget simulation, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * p<0.05; ** p<0.01.

Table 12
Dependent Variable: Total Revenue Increased

	A9.1	A9.2	A9.3	A9.4	A9.5
Conservative	-164.572** (29.182)	-165.993** (29.569)	-290.718** (57.652)	-282.409** (64.407)	-213.943** (69.199)
Liberal	131.981** (37.987)	131.476** (37.601)	109.013 (100.301)	129.150 (121.847)	65.281 (130.795)
Trust in Government		-15.068 (17.343)	-36.150 (23.113)	-20.181 (25.336)	-18.695 (25.709)
LiberalxTrust			9.013 (38.642)	-7.297 (46.266)	-3.911 (45.751)
ConservativexTrust			52.161* (20.265)	47.414* (21.675)	41.288 (23.350)
Income				-6.120 (4.122)	-5.108 (4.252)
Education				22.950* (10.000)	22.377* (9.737)
Age				1.397 (0.868)	1.199 (0.906)
Female				65.560 (38.683)	60.812 (38.013)
White				-47.866 (38.777)	-26.714 (39.962)
Budget Difficult				-51.884** (12.488)	-51.901** (12.335)
Democrat					92.060 (50.618)
Republican					-70.657* (28.782)
Constant	456.042** (29.281)	492.919** (56.168)	544.515** (66.008)	558.228** (102.041)	532.868** (103.383)
N	1600	1600	1600	1305	1305
R²	0.053	0.053	0.055	0.075	0.083
Adjusted R²	0.051	0.052	0.052	0.067	0.074

Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variable is total revenue increased from all 12 revenue items in the budget simulation, expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * p<0.05; ** p<0.01.

Appendix E: Results from Additional Spending and Revenue Categories

Table 13
Other Spending and Revenue Categories

	Education Spending Cuts	Infrastructure Spending Cuts	Foreign Aid & Diplomacy Spending Cuts	Corporate Tax Revenue
Conservative	20.686** (5.839)	0.970 (1.420)	8.515** (3.161)	-37.144** (12.399)
Liberal	-4.039 (2.466)	-3.277** (0.837)	-8.263** (2.525)	5.716 (20.524)
Trust in Government	-0.163 (0.707)	-0.357 (0.248)	-1.884** (0.693)	-9.850** (3.525)
LiberalxTrust	0.699 (0.959)	0.978* (0.414)	1.269 (0.924)	6.386 (8.212)
ConservativexTrust	-4.817* (1.862)	-0.041 (0.476)	-1.471 (1.120)	11.236* (4.510)
Income	0.068 (0.201)	-0.006 (0.048)	0.069 (0.106)	-0.643 (0.631)
Education	0.236 (0.373)	-0.075 (0.112)	-0.237 (0.317)	2.475 (1.779)
Age	-0.007 (0.033)	-0.034** (0.012)	-0.004 (0.022)	-0.149 (0.138)
Female	-2.547** (0.730)	0.073 (0.311)	-0.833 (0.794)	17.369** (4.250)
White	-0.444 (1.019)	-0.112 (0.321)	0.278 (1.318)	-9.441 (8.639)
Budget Difficult	-0.481 (0.436)	0.002 (0.132)	-0.896** (0.328)	-1.907 (1.998)
Democrat	-3.948** (0.879)	0.081 (0.428)	-3.892** (0.837)	-11.026 (10.624)
Republican	-1.100 (2.020)	1.194 (0.599)	-1.315 (1.256)	-12.784* (6.191)
Constant	9.875** (2.662)	4.947** (1.146)	21.883** (2.786)	424.455** (18.132)
N	1305	1305	1305	1305
R²	0.128	0.030	0.147	0.046
Adjusted R²	0.119	0.020	0.138	0.037

Entries report OLS regression coefficients and standard errors clustered by state in parentheses. Dependent variables are education spending cuts, infrastructure spending cuts, foreign aid & diplomacy, and revenue from corporate tax. All

variables are expressed in terms of the US dollar amount (in billions). Statistical significance denoted as: * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$.

Appendix F: Budgets Submitted

Figure 1 is a histogram of the budgets (subtracting total spending from total revenue) that all respondents submitted, expressed in billions USD. On the x-axis, zero indicates a perfectly balanced budget, total spending equals total revenue. Negative values indicate budget submitted with a deficits and conversely positive values indicate budget surpluses. 30.1% of respondents in the sample submitted budgets with a deficit.

Figure 1
Distribution of Budgets Submitted

