

Sustainable Fiscal Practices - An IOPA Tier One Issue

There are two reasons why this is a top IOPA issue. 1) Inhouse Expertise; and 2) Global Importance.

- 1) IOPA Chief Merrifield and IOPA Senior Fellow Barry Poulson have [several books](#) and articles on national and state fiscal performance, worldwide, and a worldwide network of scholars.
- 2) The fiscal practices of several countries (US included), and a few US states, are widely seen as unsustainable. How those unsustainable practices end is quite important.
- 3) A likely forced – by unsustainable federal fiscal practices – massive revival/expansion of federalism.

Research projects under development:

[Ways to accelerate economic growth.](#)

[Fiscally significant immigration reforms.](#)

Planned projects (comments and financial support would be greatly appreciated), including proposals:

Ready to resubmit to funder proposal to: 1) Set up fiscal responsibility debates with simulations of the fiscal and economic effects of policy reform options; 2) Develop and Vet ‘Soft-Landing’ policy reform scenarios; and 3) Prepare for a Controlled [Crash](#) (in case of falling off the [Fiscal Cliff](#)). [Both parties are delusional](#) about our [dangerous fiscal status](#). And, while some excellent analyses emerge from the mainstream think tanks, they also make serious errors that undermine the will to quickly act to avoid serious consequences. In [this piece](#), an American Enterprise Institute author repeatedly refers to the federal budget (NOT – it’s only a spending plan) and a budget process that’s absent, and that we’re undermining our children’s future. NO!!! We’re undermining OUR future.

IOPA supports the [ongoing Article 5 Movement](#) with simulations of different rules for a Federal Fiscal Responsibility Constitutional Amendment.

Important Fiscal Reform Books and Articles:

[Several Books](#)

Other - e-mail IOPACHief@policytalk.org to recommend additions.

Featured [Blog Post1](#) and [Blog Post2](#) (“Basic Fiscal Cliff Math”) - more forthcoming

At the Fiscal Cliff ([WSJ Article](#)) and [Only an Assumption Blocking the Fall from the Fiscal Cliff](#).

How to “[Right the Federal Fiscal Ship](#).”

[State Fiscal Policy Recommendations and Tools](#).

A paper addressing the heinous [taxation of business-owned personal property](#).

Tools:

- A) Federal Calculator is available to simulate fiscal rules to cap spending growth. Eventually, it will be an online calculator. Until then, work with [John](#) and Barry to create a simulation.
- B) For several states, a State Calculator is available to simulate fiscal rules to cap spending growth. The basic template can be adapted to additional states, as needed. Eventually, it will be an online calculator. Until then, work with [John](#) and Barry to create state simulations.