

# Fiscal Over-Reach – The Most Urgent Issue

Fiscal Over-Reach is an urgent issue because the USA and many other national and state/province governments have spent/borrowed themselves to the brink of a fiscal cliff. It's a top IOPA issue because of: 1) Inhouse and Extended Network 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](#) (especially the USA), and a few US states, are widely seen as unsustainable. Those practices could end soon, especially with the higher interest rates that are likely from: a) increased competition for loanable funds; and b) the rising default risk that yields. The ability to increase economic growth despite debt fatigue and special interest headwinds (succeed despite transition gains traps) will be a key factor. How those unsustainable practices end is quite important; something IOPA aims to influence.
- 3) A likely forced – by unsustainable federal fiscal practices – massive US revival-expansion of federalism; a rediscovery of the US Constitution's 10<sup>th</sup> amendment necessitated by the eventual inability to fund anything but core responsibilities.
- 4) State systems for child mental health services are typically unsustainable even without fiscal over-reach. The family tragedies that result from under-served and poorly served, often abused/neglected, struggling children are [common outcomes](#) of even well-funded systems.
- 5) It may that a [well-crafted Universal Basic Income](#) is a key to the entitlement reform we need, as well as tax reform, and other important governance changes.

[Center for Sustainable Fiscal Practices – The Barry Poulson Center](#)

[Center for Acceleration of Economic Growth](#)

[Center for Health Care Military Style](#)

[Center for Forced Revival of Federalism](#)

[Center for Fiscal Accountability Enhancement](#)

[Center for Fiscal Transition Gains Trap Strategies](#)

[Center for Child Mental Health Reform](#)