

Bush: 'Little bitty' tax cut just won't do

Bob Kemper
Chicago Tribune

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (KRT) — Turning up the pressure on a Democratic opponent of his tax cuts, President Bush on Monday castigated Congress for failing to act fast enough to approve the cuts that he said are particularly vital to small-business owners.

"It's time for them to move," Bush told several hundred cheering supporters, chosen by the Arkansas Republican Party, at a campaign-style rally.

"The proposal I outlined four months ago was designed to address the specific weaknesses in our economy and to remove obstacles that keep companies from hiring workers," he said. "Those obstacles still exist. Congress needs to move."

Returning to the White House from his Texas ranch, Bush stopped in the home state of Sen. Blanche Lincoln, a Democrat who supported the president's 2001 tax cuts of \$1.3 trillion over 10 years but

wants to slash his new proposal.

The White House is two votes short in the Senate for to pass a tax bill and is targeting Lincoln along with two Republican senators — George Voinovich of Ohio and Olympia Snowe of Maine — who refuse to back another huge cut on the grounds that it would drive the federal budget deeper into debt.

Lincoln was invited to attend Bush's event in Little Rock but, citing scheduling conflicts, she declined.

So far, there is no indication that the three are prepared to drop their opposition to the tax plan. Negotiations over the size and shape of the package continue on Capitol Hill.

Bush did not name Lincoln, but he told listeners to urge their lawmakers to approve the largest tax package possible.

"The Congress needs to hear from the people of Arkansas," the president said. "Democracy can

work, particularly when a lot of people get on the phone or by e-mail and just let them know what's on your mind."

Bush is intensifying pressure on the Republican-controlled Congress to implement new tax breaks, which are the centerpiece of his domestic agenda. He wants at least \$550 billion in cuts over 10 years, but the Senate is threatening to reduce the package to \$350 billion.

"The good news is that the debate has shifted from no tax relief to how much tax relief," Bush said. "Congress needs to move. They need to move boldly. We don't need ... a little bitty tax-relief plan. We need one that is strong and robust."

The president portrayed the cuts as a jobs and growth package needed to invigorate the ailing economy despite some economists' belief that most of the package is focused in the long term and would create little economic activity and fewer jobs over the

next year.

Also, to counter criticisms that the tax cuts would mainly benefit the wealthiest taxpayers, Bush is trying to present his proposal as a boon to small-business owners, who often pay individual income taxes at the highest rates. Such businesses would generate most of the jobs the country needs to recover, he said, so aiding them would help economic growth.

"Tax policy needs to encourage positive decision-making in the small-business sector because small businesses are the lifeblood for new employment," the president said.

After unofficially kicking off his re-election campaign with a nationally televised speech from aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln last week, Bush is expected to step up travel plans to promote his domestic agenda and lay the groundwork for next year's campaign.

While he spends much of his time talking about the war on ter-

rorism and his role in its success, Bush is primarily trying to convince Americans that he knows their economic problems.

"We have got challenges here at home, to make sure that our economy is strong enough so people can find work," he said.

Bush had been scheduled to meet Monday with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien in Ottawa. But the White House "postponed" the trip after Canada opposed the war in Iraq, saying the president was too busy with the Iraqi war to travel.

Instead, Bush met at his ranch near Crawford, Texas, this weekend with Australian Prime Minister John Howard, a staunch supporter of the Iraqi invasion.

"The reason why we welcomed them there is because Australia is an important ally of ours," Bush told the crowd Monday. "The Australians fought beside our forces in Iraq."

© 2003, Chicago Tribune.
Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

Scientists look into Midwestern storms

Robert S. Boyd
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON (KRT) — Government and university scientists announced Monday a major study of why big, violent storms occur and how they can be predicted.

The study will cover the Midwest thunderstorm zone from South Dakota to Ohio, using radar-bearing aircraft and ground-based mobile laboratories. It begins May 20 and runs through July 6 under the direction of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo.

The scientists will investigate huge thunderstorm complexes that can spread hurricane-force winds and torrential rains for hundreds of miles. These monsters sometimes spin off tornadoes, like those that killed at least 34 people in Kansas, Missouri and Tennessee this week. The \$4 million study was in the works long before this week.

"This (project) is a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Ron Przybylinski of the St. Louis office of the National Weather Service. "The more knowledge we have about the evolution of these systems, the better we can predict them."

Most ordinary summer storms are born and die in an hour or two and span about 12 miles. But these large systems — known as mesoscale convective vortices — can be 500 miles long and 90 miles wide. They typically develop in the late afternoon and can last all night, bringing winds up to 100 miles an hour and intense rainfall.



FRANKLIN, KS — Robin Dixon walks through the remains of her home in Columbus, Kansas, after severe weather and a tornado hit the area on Monday.
Brian Corn
Wichita Eagle

"The effects are like a land hurricane," said Christopher Davis, co-leader of the project at the research center.

Even after one of these storms decays, its low-pressure vortex may persist and give rise to a new storm the next day. Several days of storms may trail one another across the central and eastern United States.

These storms sometimes give rise to tornadoes at their leading or trailing edge, as happened Sunday and Monday. More typically, damage from superstorms is due to high winds and floods.

One such vortex that began in South Dakota in July 1977 traveled

1,000 miles east and produced a catastrophic flood that killed 78 people in Johnstown, Pa., according to Steve Nelson, program director for mesoscale meteorology at the National Science Foundation.

Between January 1995 and July 2000, high winds from mesoscale storms caused \$1.4 billion in damages, 72 deaths and 1,000 injuries, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which operates the Weather Service.

The study will be carried out aboard three airplanes, based in St. Louis, that will track developing storms by flying in and around them as the storms move eastward

across the Midwest. Meanwhile, ground-based crews in mobile laboratories will deploy weather balloons and other instruments to sample the storm environment.

Researchers have been using computer simulations to try to understand how these storm clusters work, but until now there have been no large-scale data-gathering projects.

"We'd gone about as far as we could with the idealized simulations," said Morris Weisman, co-leader of the project at the atmospheric research center. "We needed to get good data."

© 2003, Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

News brief

White House blocks release of information on terrorism warnings

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration and the nation's intelligence agencies are blocking the release of sensitive information about the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, delaying publication of a 900-page congressional report on how the terrorist assault happened.

Intelligence officials insist the information must be kept secret for national security reasons. But some of the information is already broadly available on the Internet or has been revealed in interim reports on the investigation, leading to charges that the administration is simply trying to avoid enshrining embarrassing details in the report.

Disputed information includes a well-publicized warning from an FBI agent that al-Qaida supporters might be training in U.S. flight schools and the names of the president and his national security adviser as people who may have received warnings that a terrorist attack was possible before Sept. 11, 2001, one official said.

"We're trying to keep in this report some matters that have been talked about in public, discussed in newspapers, and not to do that flies in the face of common sense," Rep. Porter Goss, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said on Monday.

— Frank Davies, Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

Applying Psychology to the Real World

Department of Psychology, Summer Session, 2003

Join us for an exciting summer of Psychology! Our summer classes are small and are geared towards investigating real life issues. Course offerings include: Human Sexuality • Psychoactive Drugs • Psychology of Trauma • Psychology of Gender • Perception • Psychopathology • Explore Consciousness. Several courses also fulfill social science, science and multicultural requirements.

Registration begins Monday, May 5, 2003.

For a complete course listing and more information, please visit our web page:
<http://psychweb.uoregon.edu/summer>

Premier Travel

- Eugene Airfare Specials!
- Cabo - \$288.00*
- Cancun - \$408.00*
- London - \$578.00*

*tax & agency fee not included, restrictions may apply. Subject to change without notice.

Eurail Passes issued on-site!

E-mail: fares@luv2travel.com

1011 Harlow
747-0909
Student Travel Experts

Don't have any more
DUCK BUCKS™?

Don't have a cow man...

Come to
EMU Suite 300
and stock up!

Oregon Daily Emerald

P.O. Box 3159, Eugene OR 97403

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published daily Monday through Friday during the school year by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co. Inc., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon. The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices in Suite 300 of the Erb Memorial Union. The Emerald is private property. The unlawful removal or use of papers is prosecutable by law.

NEWSROOM — (541) 346-5511

Editor in chief: Michael J. Kleckner

Managing editor: Jessica Richelderfer

Freelance: Ayisha Yahya, editor. News desks: Brook Reinhard, Jan Montry, news editor. Jennifer Bear, senior reporter — campus/federal politics, Aimee Rudin, senior reporter — city/state politics, Caron Alarab, safety/crime/transportation, Roman Gokhman, campus/city culture, Lindsay Sauv , family/health/education, Ali Shaughnessy, environment/science/technology. Pulse: Jacquelyn Lewis, editor. Ryan Bornheimer, senior reporter. Mark Baylis, Aaron Shakra, reporters. Joe Bechard, Nika Carlson, Natasha Chilingirian, Ryan Nyburg, Mason West, columnists. Sports: Peter Hockaday, editor. Hank Hager, Mindi Rice, Jesse Thomas, reporters. Commentary:

Salena De La Cruz, editorial page assistant. Jessica Cole-Hodgkinson, DJ Fuller, Philip Huang, Julie Lauderbaugh, Chuck Slothower, columnists. Design: Adelle Lennox, editor. Jennie Cramlet, Colleen Froehlich, Meg Krugel, graphic designers. Steve Baggs, Peter Utsey, illustrators. Tyler Wintermute, junior illustrator. Photo: Adam Amato, editor. Jeremy Forrest, senior photographer. Danielle Hickey, Mark McCambridge, photographers. Copy: Jennifer Snyder, Jennifer Sudick, copy chiefs. Brandi Beavers, Susan Gayton, Heather Thompson, Travis Willse, Talia Wilson, copy editors. Online: Erik Bishoff, editor. Eric Layton, webmaster.

BUSINESS — 346-5512 General manager: Judy Riedl
Business supervisor: Kathy Carbone Receptionist: Sarah Goracke
Distribution: Joel Domreis, Heather Lake, Matt O'Brien, John Long,

Mike Sarnoff-Wood

ADVERTISING — DISPLAY 346-3712 CLASSIFIED 346-4343

Director: Becky Merchant Sales manager: Michael Kirk

Special publications and classified manager: Hillary Mosher

Sales representatives: Tim Bott, Michelle Chan, Aaron Golden, Kim

Humphries, Jenn Knoop, Lindsay McNamara, Mickey Miles, Valisa

Nelson, Laura Staples, Sherry Telford, Jeremy Williams Assistants: Liz

Carson, Katy Cooney, Katy Hagert, Erin O'Connell, Keri Spangler, Kate

Workman

PRODUCTION — 346-4381 Manager: Michele Ross

Production coordinator: Tara Sloan Designers: Emily Cooke,

Matt Graff, Andy Holland, Marissa Jones, Jayoung Park, Laura Paz,

Kira Stoops