



Nebraska U.S. Senate Candidate Spending Analysis – Scott Kleeb

Total Net Spending Agenda: \$19.944 billion

Economy, Transportation, and Infrastructure: \$250 million

A. Broadband in Rural Areas:

“Scott will support ... [i]nvestments in modernizing rural communication infrastructure to bring broadband to rural areas.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/rural_america/

Cost: Unknown.

B. Labor – Family and Medical Leave:

“His priorities include ... expanding the Family and Medical Leave Act and other measures that support working families.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/the_economy/

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Proposals that include extending paid leave to federal employees could have a considerable cost. There are also related proposals such as H.R. 1369 (110th Congress) that authorize appropriations of \$400 million to subsidize state and local efforts to increase paid leave.

C. Labor – Trade Adjustment Assistance:

“... Kleeb supports expanding trade adjustment assistance to retrain displaced workers, including those in the services sector. Comprehensive education and training are essential to putting Americans back to work, and maintaining U.S. competitiveness.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/Scott%20Kleeb%20Policy%20Book.pdf>

Cost: \$250 million (\$2.5 billion over 10 years).

Source: Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimate for S. 1309 (109th Congress), the Trade Adjustment Assistance Equity for Service Workers Act of 2005.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=6653&type=1>

D. Rural Roadway Infrastructure:

“Scott will support ... [r]ural investments in rural roadway infrastructure.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/rural_america/

Cost: Unknown.

Education, Science, and Research: \$9.067 billion

A. After-School Programs:

“Scott believes we must ... [e]xpand after-school programs.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

B. Broadband and Computers for Rural Schools:

“Scott supports ... [e]xpanding broadband access and increasing the number of computers in rural schools so geography isn't a limitation to getting a global education.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

C. Class Size Reduction:

“Scott believes we must ... [r]educate the size of classes in order to give more individual attention to students.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: \$2 billion (first-year cost).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 2122 (110th Congress): A bill to amend Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to reduce class size through the use of highly qualified teachers, and for other purposes. The text of the bill authorizes \$2 billion in the first year, and “such sums as may be necessary” in subsequent years.

D. Community Colleges and Technical Schools:

“Scott Kleeb knows that these institutions [community colleges and technical schools] help hard-working Americans get ahead, and will be an advocate for increasing funding for programs and scholarships in the Senate.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

E. Continuing Education for Professionals:

“Scott Kleeb knows that learning doesn't end when you graduate from school. From a teacher who wants to pursue a higher degree to a professional looking to change careers

or advance in a job, Scott will work to provide grants and scholarships to help middle-class professionals get ahead.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

F. Continuing Education for Teachers:

“... Scott will work to ... [o]ffer incentives for teachers to continue post-graduate studies during their careers.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

G. Education Tax Credit:

“Scott Kleeb is committed to helping parents and young people by offering a tax credit of up to \$5,000 to help defray the cost of college.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: A related proposal by a Senate candidate in another state was estimated to cost \$10 billion a year but unless Kleeb is proposing a refundable credit, the budgetary effect will be to reduce revenues rather than to increase outlays.

<http://www.sctimes.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081008/NEWS01/110080042/1009>

H. Head Start:

“Scott Kleeb will work to increase funding for Head Start and similar programs to provide kids with the mental and physical tools they deserve.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: H.R. 1429 (110th Congress), the Innovations for our Nation’s Vital Educational Needs for Technology Act, was signed into law on December 12, 2007. The legislation is expected to increase Head Start spending by \$3.554 billion over the next five years.

<http://www.cbo.gov/cedirect.cfm?bill=hr1429&cong=110>

I. National Defense Education Act for the 21st Century:

“Fifty years ago, the launch of Sputnik sent shockwaves around the world. America responded by passing the National Defense Education Act and reinvesting in our children and the sciences to create the most well-educated workforce on Earth. ... Scott believes we must invest in a National Defense Education Act for the 21st Century.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: \$5.367 billion (\$26.836 billion over five years).

Note: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 3502 (109th Congress): A bill to modernize the education system of the United States, to arm individuals with 21st century knowledge and skills in order to preserve the economic and national security of the United States, and for other purposes. The text authorizes the funding plus “such sums as may be necessary.”

S. 3502 includes funding for other proposals offered by Kleeb:

- “Scott supports additional funding for scholarship incentives and partnering with corporate America to recruit high quality math and science teachers dedicated to giving our young people the education they deserve ...
- [o]ffer incentives, such as scholarships and student-loan forgiveness that encourage college graduates to enter the education profession.
- ... [r]ecruit more qualified teachers into hard-to-staff fields, such as math and science, and hard-to-staff school districts.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

J. Pell Grants:

“Scott Kleeb will work to increase funding for Pell Grants.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Scott Kleeb has not specified the amount by which he would like to increase Pell Grants but according to the Congressional Research Service, each \$100 increase in the maximum Pell Grant would increase spending by \$408 million. However, the more the maximum award is increased, the greater the expenditure effect: a \$500 increase in the maximum Pell Grant would increase spending by \$2.071 billion, and a \$1,800 increase in the maximum Pell Grant would increase spending by \$7.509 billion.

Congressional Research Service, *Federal Pell Grants: Implications of Increasing the Maximum Award*, May 15, 2005.

<http://projectonstudentdebt.org/files/pub/Pell%20II.pdf>

K. Scholarships for Service:

“Scott Kleeb will support measures to provide scholarship incentives for young people to enter service-oriented fields that assist underserved communities, including joining the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: H.R. 4137 (110th Congress), the Higher Education Opportunity Act, was passed into law in August of 2008 and authorized loan forgiveness for “service in areas of national need,” additional funds for “off-campus community service,” and forgiveness of Perkins Loans for public service.

L. School Infrastructure:

“Scott supports ... [i]ncreasing funding to repair and refurbish ailing schools.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: \$1.6 billion (first-year cost).

Source: Related legislation has been introduced in the form of S. 1942 (110th Congress): A bill to amend Part D of Title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for the renovation of schools. The text authorizes \$1.6 billion in the first year, and “such sums as may be necessary” in subsequent years.

M. Teacher Mentoring:

“... Scott will work to ... create mentoring programs so that seasoned teachers can teach others how to succeed.”

Cost: \$50 million (first-year cost).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 1339 (110th Congress): A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, the Higher Education Act of 1965, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve recruitment, preparation, distribution, and retention of public elementary and secondary school teachers and principals, and for other purposes. Section 301 of the bill contains an authorization of \$50 million in the first year, and “such sums as may be necessary” in subsequent years for a teacher Peer Mentoring and Review program.

N. Teacher Pay:

“... Scott will work to ... [p]ay teachers a competitive wage.
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/education/>

Cost: Unknown.

O. Teachers in Rural Communities:

“Scott supports ... [p]roviding incentives for college educated teachers to return to rural communities.”

Cost: \$50 million (first-year cost).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 583 (110th Congress): A bill to create a competitive grant program for states to enable the states to award salary bonuses to highly qualified elementary school or secondary school teachers who teach, or commit to teach, for at least 3 academic years in a school served by a rural local educational agency. The text authorizes \$50 million in the first year, and “such sums as may be necessary” in subsequent years.

Energy, Agriculture, and the Environment: Unknown

A. Ethanol:

“... Scott believes we must ... [i]nvest in and develop ethanol.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/energy/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unclear whether this would be achieved through tax credits or federal grants.

B. Ethanol Distribution:

“Scott Kleeb will advocate for increased incentives for the installation of E85 pumps and for the construction of infrastructure to transport ethanol around the nation.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/energy/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unclear whether this would be achieved through tax credits or federal grants.

C. Livestock Revenue Insurance Program:

“Scott Kleeb believes the time has come to work with the livestock community to develop a revenue insurance program with benchmarks to measure losses, be it from weather, cost of feed, or price fluctuation of the animal.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/agriculture/>

Cost: Unknown.

D. National Electric Grid:

“Scott Kleeb knows that we need to build a national grid so the electricity generated from Nebraskan wind farms can be sold to America’s cities. He supports funding renewable energy transmission corridors to make this a reality and to bring tremendous economic opportunities to Nebraska.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/energy/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Related legislation has been introduced in the form of H.R. 4059 (110th Congress): A bill to promote electric transmission construction in rural areas with significant renewable energy potential, and for other purposes. A cost estimate is unavailable.

E. Natural Resources Amenities and Recreation:

“Scott will support ... [i]nvestments in natural-resources amenities and recreation to build agribusiness and agritourism, including bird watching, hunting, and fishing.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/rural_america/

Cost: Unknown.

F. Solar Energy and Development:

“Scott Kleeb supports increasing research and development of solar energy so we can continue to find clean, affordable energy sources right here in Nebraska.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/energy/>

Cost: Unknown.

Health Care: \$7.68 billion

A. Debt Assistance to Clinics:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [d]ebt assistance to clinics struggling financially because of inadequate funding.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

B. Health Centers:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [i]ncreased funding for community health centers, an important and proven tool for providing health care to rural communities.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

Note: There are several related bills in Congress, including S. 941, the Community Health Centers Investment Act (which would authorize \$1.565 billion a year in increases for community centers) and S. 3412, the Access for All America Act (which, according to information from the sponsor, would increase community center funding by \$1.332 billion a year).

http://obama.senate.gov/press/080801-sanders_obama_c/

C. Hospital Incentives:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [i]ncentives for hospitals to keep their facilities operational.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

D. Medicaid and Medicare:

“Scott Kleeb will work to increase parity in the Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement programs.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/seniors/>

Cost: Unknown.

E. Mental Health Care:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [i]ncreased access for mental health care, particularly counselors to address the growing rate of teen suicide.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: \$13 million (\$66 million over five years).

Source: Legislation pertaining to increasing access to mental health care for teens was introduced in the form of S. 1514 (110th Congress): A bill to revise and extend provisions under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act. The text authorizes the increased funding.

F. Prevention and Wellness:

“Scott Kleeb will work to change that and will support measures designed to promote wellness and prevention, not merely treating sickness.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

G. Rural Telemedicine:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [t]elemedicine technologies that connect rural doctors and patients with specialists and equipment.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

“Scott Kleeb will ensure that the medical profession has incentives to work together across disciplines to utilize technology and integrate patient information.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: \$85 million (\$170 million over two years).

Source: CBO estimate for S. 1693 (110th Congress): A bill to enhance the adoption of a nationwide interoperable health information technology system and to improve the quality and reduce the costs of health care in the United States.
<http://www.cbo.gov/cedirect.cfm?bill=s1693&cong=110>

H. State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Expansion:

“ Scott Kleeb ... will be an advocate for children's health here in Nebraska and around the country by supporting ... [r]eauthorization of SCHIP. As Nebraska and other states faced significant shortfalls in funding, Congress twice last year passed the bipartisan State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) reauthorization, which would have covered 10 million low-income children nationwide. And twice President Bush vetoed the measure. Scott Kleeb is committed to providing kids with the health coverage they need to grow up healthy, which includes expanding SCHIP to allow states to cover pregnant women and provide dental care.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: \$7.474 billion (\$37.371 billion over five years).

Source: CBO estimate for H.R. 3963 (110th Congress), the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007.
<http://www.cbo.gov/showdoc.cfm?index=9716&sequence=0&from=6>

I. Substance Abuse Counseling:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [i]ncreased access to health care professions specializing in substance abuse counseling, especially as related to methamphetamines.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: \$108 million (\$540 million over five years).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 884 (110th Congress): A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding residential treatment programs for pregnant and parenting women, a program to reduce substance abuse among nonviolent offenders, and for other purposes. The text authorizes the increased funding.

J. Transportation Services:

“Scott Kleeb ... will support ... [t]ransportation services to help rural Americans get care.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

K. Tuition Reimbursement for Health Care Professionals in Rural Areas:

“Scott Kleeb will encourage young health care professionals to serve rural communities by supporting tuition reimbursement to those who serve more than two years in small town clinics and hospitals.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

L. Women and Heart Disease:

“Scott Kleeb will support increased funding for diseases and illnesses that target women, including ... heart disease.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 573 (110th Congress): A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women. A cost estimate is unavailable.

M. Women’s Health:

“Scott Kleeb will support increased funding for diseases and illnesses that target women, including ... breast, cervical, and ovarian cancer.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

Homeland Security and Law Enforcement: \$2.057 billion

A. Secure America through Verification and Enforcement Act:

“...Scott will work ... to ... [p]ass the Secure America through Verification and Enforcement (SAVE) Act.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/immigration/>

Cost: \$2.057 billion (\$10.286 billion over five years).

Source: A CBO estimate is available for H.R. 4088 (110th Congress), the Secure America Through Verification and Enforcement Act of 2007.

<http://www.cbo.gov/showdoc.cfm?index=9100&sequence=0&from=6>

B. Southwest Border Fence:

“...Scott will work ... to ... [s]ecure funding to build a southwest border fence.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/immigration/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The Department of Homeland Security plans to complete 670 miles of fencing by the end of 2008. It is unclear if Kleeb is proposing additional fencing. Representative Duncan Hunter's Congressional staff estimates that it costs \$1.2 million per mile for a double-layered security fence.

National Defense and International Relations: Unknown

A. Equipment for the Military:

“ ... Scott will work to ... [p]rovide new, cutting-edge, and proven-effective equipment, armor, training, and skill development like language training.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/defense/>

Cost: Unknown.

B. Foreign Aid – HIV/AIDS Relief:

“ ... Scott supports ... [i]ncreased aid to combat HIV/AIDS.”
http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/foreign_policy/

Cost: Unknown.

Note: According to an April 2006 opinion editorial in *The Hill*, the Bush Administration has pledged \$15 billion over five years to combat AIDS.
<http://thehill.com/op-eds/tobias-has-a-mission-to-reform-u.s.-foreign-aid-2006-04-25.html>.

Note: Kleeb has not committed to a specific dollar figure.

C. Military Pay and Benefits:

“... Scott will work to ... [p]rovide better pay and benefits for enlisted men and women and their families.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/defense/>

Cost: Unknown.

D. Special Operations Forces:

“... Scott will work to ... [i]ncrease Special Ops forces.”
<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/defense/>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The Department of Defense estimated that Special Operations Forces would have spent approximately \$93 million in FY 2005 on training and recruitment.

http://www.dod.mil/comptroller/defbudget/fy2004/budget_justification/pdfs/operation/Overview_Book/32_Special_Operations.pdf

Veterans: \$890 million

A. Care Facilities:

“As more of our combat soldiers are returning home with life-altering injuries requiring long-term care, Scott Kleeb believes we must invest more in the facilities that care for and support these Veterans and their families.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

B. Health Care Needs of Rural Veterans:

“Scott Kleeb believes we must honor these heroes by ... [p]roviding grants to states to serve the mental health and other health care needs of its rural Veterans.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/veterans/>

Cost: \$67 million (\$134 million over two years).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 3095 (110th Congress): A bill to amend Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program to increase the delivery of mental health services and other health services to veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom and to other residents of rural areas, and for other purposes. The text authorizes funding increases.

C. Readjustment Counseling:

“Scott Kleeb believes we must honor these heroes by ... [i]mplementing better peer outreach and readjustment counseling for returning combat soldiers and their families.”

http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/health_care/

Cost: Unknown.

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 38 (110th Congress): A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program for the provision of readjustment and mental health services to veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes. A cost estimate is not available.

D. Services for Veterans:

“Kleeb is committed to breaking the cycle of homelessness by doing more to support improved access to health care services, housing, and job opportunities.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/veterans/>

Cost: \$823 million (\$4.115 billion over five years).

Source: Related legislation was introduced in the form of S. 1084 (110th Congress): A bill to provide housing assistance for very low-income veterans. The bill authorizes funding and provides at least 20,000 housing assistance vouchers at a cost of \$818 million annually. This estimate also includes information from a separate bill, S. 2330 (110th Congress): A bill to authorize a pilot program within the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development with the goal of preventing at-risk veterans and veteran families from falling into homelessness, and for other purposes. The bill authorizes \$25 million in the first year, and “such sums as necessary” in subsequent years.

E. Veterans Administration Health Professionals:

“Scott Kleeb believes we must honor these heroes by ... [r]ecruiting more mental and other health professionals, such as substance abuse counselors, to treat Veterans.”

<http://www.scottkleeb.com/about/issues/veterans/>

Cost: Unknown.

Source: Congress recently passed S. 2162, the Veterans Mental Health Improvements Act of 2007, which includes an expansion of substance abuse treatment for veterans. CBO estimated the bill would increase spending by about \$880 million over the 2008-2013 period.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/91xx/doc9111/s2162.pdf>