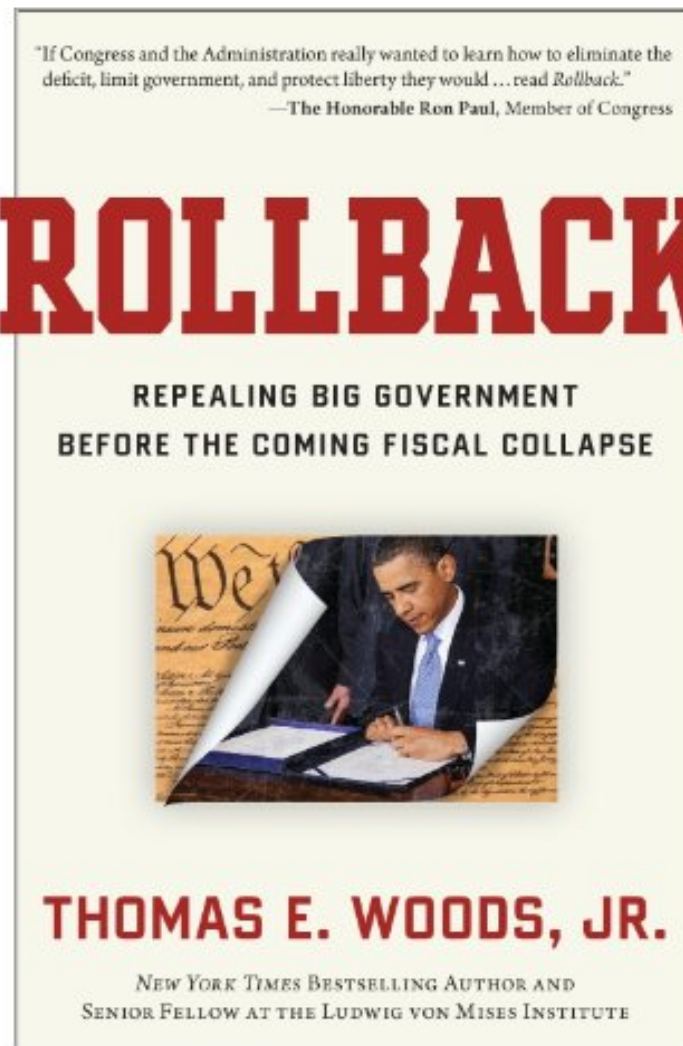


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Rollback: Repealing Big Government Before the Coming Fiscal Collapse

Thomas E. Woods

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Thomas E. Woods : Rollback: Repealing Big Government Before the Coming Fiscal Collapse before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rollback: Repealing Big Government Before the Coming Fiscal Collapse:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Is it too late? By Mark Sutter Anyone leaning toward a libertarian point of view should enjoy this book. If, however, you prefer that we continue down the path of socialism that Obama seems to be taking us, you probably won't like what this book offers. After reading this book one has to ask the

important question "Is it too late to roll back the size of government?" The book clearly points out the dangers of an ever-expanding federal government. I'll quote for you one passage from the book (page 128) which I believe reveals the author's point of view: "...it is difficult to devise a welfare program that does not produce net harm. Given Man's inclination to acquire wealth with the least possible exertion, programs like these threaten to drag additional people into a cycle of dependency that mankind's inclination to sloth will only reinforce over time. ... Once people realize the government is giving out a benefit for free, more and more people will place themselves in the condition that entitles them to the benefit, thereby making the program ever more expensive, society poorer, and the system more fragile, as a narrower and narrower base of productive individuals is forced to support an ever-growing population demanding benefits."

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Sober economic analysis of coming crisis
By USAF Veteran Thomas E. Woods, Jr., author of *The Politically Incorrect Guide to American History*, *Nullification: How to Resist Federal Tyranny in the 21st Century*, and other historical/political books gives us an up-to-date review of current economic conditions, what got us here, and a very, very short chapter on solutions. Woods writes from the background of an historian who works for the Ludwig Von Mises Institute, a free market think-tank. I found his book on nullification, the idea that states can nullify unconstitutional laws since they are the 4th branch of government, to be his best work to this point. Woods takes the libertarian ideal as his standard. He shows equal disdain for Republican and Democrat administrations since they all have done basically the same thing: wage unwinnable wars, spend money, and decrease the freedom of the average US citizen. Unfortunately, I can find no error in this assessment.

Chapter 1 is 16 pages discussing "Is it already too late?" This chapter is succinct and full of facts and figures that show the magnitude of our problems. This last week, Standard and Poor's dropped the rating of the US debt, showing that Woods is right on target. We all know that we are out of money and running up huge deficits. The question is, can we stop it? Woods suggests that we can't. Given that the last few months have seen partisan political battles over cutting a paltry few billion when our debt increases 100 billion every month, I don't see how anyone can argue that we really have a chance. The massive tea party effort that actually gave control to the Republicans of the House of Representatives has resulted in absolutely nothing of note. Even though the House controls completely the purse-strings, no one will actually draw them tight. Even the Ryan plan, to "cut" a trillion dollars is a gigantic lie. What they mean by "cut" is actually not a cut at all, but means that the government will grow a trillion dollars slower over the next ten years, though the deficit will continue to grow. What kind of a cut is that? The Ryan plan predicts a balanced budget by 2030 - 20 years from now. Anyway, read chapter one for more facts and figures if you have any doubts. Chapter 2 is also short and covers some disastrous policies of the Obama administration starting with Obamacare, the takeover of 1/6 of the US economy. Obama is just the name that fills in the blank in the statement, "_____ was the leader of the US during the most recent disastrous economic policies." The first sentence of the chapter reads, "The looming fiscal crisis didn't originate with Barack Obama, but he sure hasn't helped." The rest of the chapter goes over bail-outs, housing policy, and how Obama has destroyed the rule of law doing things like favoring unions over other creditors. Chapter 3 shows how the government intervention in the economy both caused the current problems and is just making them worse. Chapter 4 is a short polemic on the private bank that oversees our economy for some reason - the Federal Reserve. Chapter 5 takes on the military-industrial complex and quotes the deceased Osama Bin Laden who notes that with our unguarded borders he could send in terrorist attacks at any time but why should he when "We are continuing in the same policy to make America bleed profusely to the point of bankruptcy"? How much have we spent on the war with terrorism in the last decade? Chapter 6 is a long chapter that is clearly the author's favorite subject: "The Myth of 'Good Government'". Woods cites failure after failure in some detail. I actually found that a few of these examples were overdrawn. This weakness is why I gave the book 4 stars - along with the rather plain prose during several of the sections. Chapter 7, the last, is a short note of some efforts to fix the economic crisis, while noting that nothing will really be done that works anyway. Definitely a downer to read. Overall a decent collection of data and opinions that comes to the conclusion that we all know the problem but nothing will be fixed until a crisis of unimaginable proportions forces a massive re-structuring. This book is the economic equivalent of Patrick Buchanan's demographic doomsday book *The Death of the West: How Dying Populations and Immigrant Invasions Imperil Our Country and Civilization* about how the current trends mean that there isn't a prayer that America will continue to exist as it is since the groups that are growing (Muslim, Hispanic, etc.) simply do not believe in the American concepts of freedom, limited government, and self-reliance. Like that book, this is grim reading. It is customary at this point of a review of a book like this to say something rousing and hopeful. Sorry. 4 stars.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good theory backed by good facts
By Dingol I had already read *Meltdown* by Woods a couple years ago, so I had high hopes when I bought this one. Luckily my hopes were absolutely met and I was very impressed by this book. Being a historian with a firm grasp of economics allows Woods to provide a thorough analysis of the utter ineptitude of our government. Best of all, he backs it all up with citations of facts that move the book from speculation and assumptions to truth. Woods covers all the untouchable government programs; he sharply criticizes entitlement programs and the military-industrial complex, so neoconservatives shouldn't read this book if all they want is someone to agree with them. He provides good solutions for a lot of the problems that plague our government, and I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in

shrinking the state.

In his blockbuster new book, *Rollback*, New York Times bestselling author Thomas E. Woods, Jr. offers the first critical analysis of the 2010 mid-term elections and answers the #1 question on conservatives' minds: How do we roll back the liberal policies and big government programs that Obama/Pelosi/Reid rushed through Congress before the mid-terms? From getting rid of wasteful and inefficient federal agencies to abolishing the income tax to repealing health care reform and all of Obama's "green" policies, Woods outlines a bold plan for dramatically overhauling the government and restoring our Founding Fathers' vision for America.

From the Inside Flap "If Congress and the Administration really wanted to learn how to eliminate the deficit, limit government, and protect liberty they would stop wasting taxpayers' money on 'debt commissions' and instead read *Rollback*." —The Honorable Ron Paul, Member of Congress "In *Rollback*, Tom Woods provides a provocative assessment of President Obama's first two years of economic policy-making, challenging virtually every aspect of the administration's narrative. While some readers may not be persuaded, all will find Woods' analysis both interesting and worthy of serious debate." —Dr. Jeffrey Miron, Economist, Harvard University, and Senior Fellow at the Cato Institute "Tom Woods takes an honest (and methodically cited) look at the record of big government: skyrocketing health-care costs, an out-of-control military, moral hazard in the markets, and a collapsing dollar. Even better, he offers clever, turn-key solutions that could restore the United States to being the breeding ground of wealth and ingenuity that our immigrant ancestors sought and cherished. *Rollback* debunks the popular rhetoric of politicians, the media, and academia. Without a hint of partisanship—taking on Republicans and Democrats alike—Woods has shown how misguided policies have set us up to be the first generation in memory to pass along lower standards of health, wealth, and opportunity to our children. If you are confused about how our once-mighty country has fallen so far, so fast, then *Rollback* is a good place to find your answer." —Peter Schiff, president of Euro Pacific Capital and host of *The Peter Schiff Show* "In *Rollback*, economic historian Tom Woods proves that the true culprit for our financial woes is a government that thinks it can right any wrong, regulate any activity, and tax any event; and a public that continues to accept the assault on its natural liberties in the name of safety. Woods demonstrates with brutal clarity the critical and immediate need to reject the myth that the government can protect us and to repeal the institutions it has created to do so." —Judge Andrew P. Napolitano, Senior Judicial Analyst, FOX News