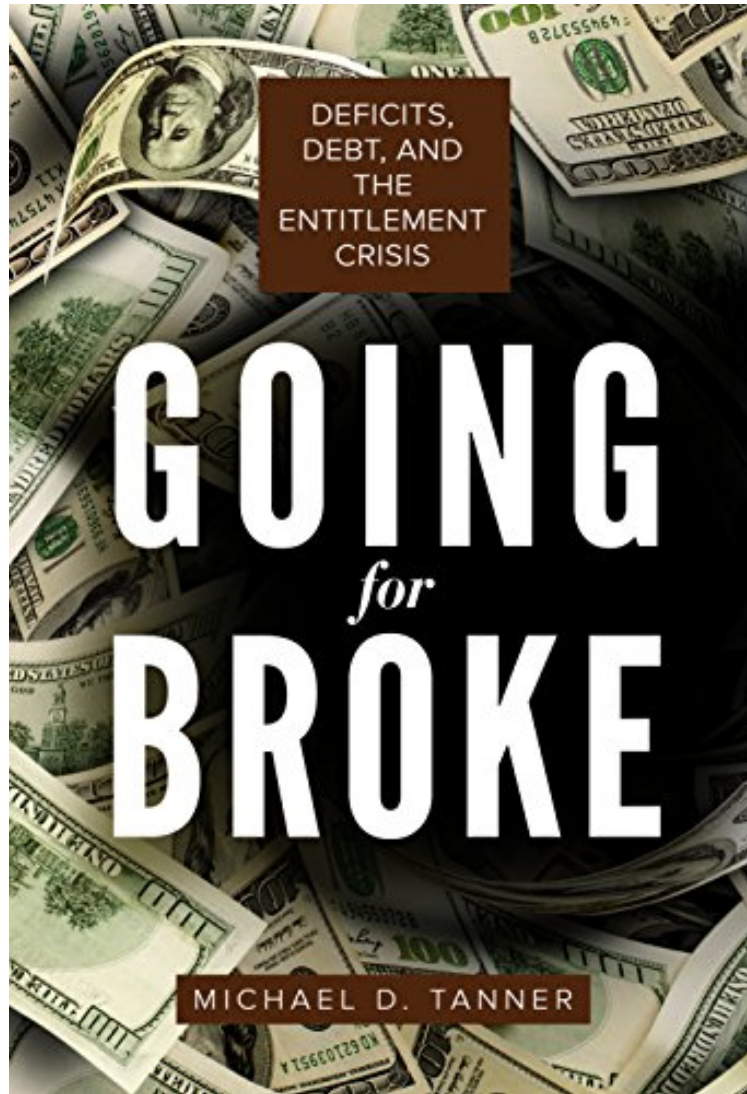


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Going for Broke: Deficits, Debt, and the Entitlement Crisis

Michael D. Tanner

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Michael D. Tanner : Going for Broke: Deficits, Debt, and the Entitlement Crisis before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Going for Broke: Deficits, Debt, and the Entitlement Crisis:

27 of 32 people found the following review helpful. What appear to be useful footnotes at the end of a book way too long to enjoy reading..By Interested customer Another of those "preaching to the choir" books I keep buying. Of course I liked it, kinda, because it confirmed all of my pre-existing biases. And it is relatively well written, filled with facts that I can use to confound my liberal associates, and with extensive footnotes, which can presumably be used by one preparing a speech or article, to give the appearance of in-depth research. But TMI as it is said. It frequently appears

that Tanner expected to get paid by the word. I know that our big financial problem is the entitlement morass. I know that our politicians consistently lie about the problem as they kick it further down the road, in the hopes that they will be able to retire with a government pension before it all comes crashing down. So as I neared the end of the book I found myself skimming the text, pausing only to actually read the section headings, which pretty much established the theme. As for solutions, Tanner has several suggestions. At the end of each of his litanies of the potential catastrophes awaiting the various entitlement programs, he provides a recap of the Libertarian solution. Switching Social Security to a defined contribution system, allowing each worker to invest his or her own funds. With, one assumes, the helpful guidance of a commission salesman offering advice on the best of the get-rich schemes his company has to offer. Or Health Vouchers which would allow everyone to buy whatever insurance he or she wanted, assuming we were all smart enough to decipher the hard to find, and often misleading, claims of the insurance companies as to what they cover. So--it's a good resource to be kept on the shelf if you want to get into an argument about our financial health. Not a great read. Then, at its end, the book limps to a close with the thought that it would be nice if we had a better class of politician. Which, I am sure, is as true today as it was when the Greek politicians gave Socrates his famous farewell toast.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good overview. But polemic. By John DA good general introduction. For the general well-read public. Not for serious economics students. Also a bit too polemic for my tastes, even though I agree with his side of things. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By paul daniels A must read for every American concerned about our debt and political system.

Americans are finally enjoying an improving economy after years of recession and slow growth. The unemployment rate is dropping, the economy is expanding, and public confidence is rising. Surely our economic crisis is behind us. Or is it? In *Going for Broke: Deficits, Debt, and the Entitlement Crisis*, Michael Tanner, a nationally recognized expert on entitlements, health care reform, and social welfare policy, examines the growing national debt and its dire implications for our future and explains why a looming financial meltdown may be far worse than anyone expects. Many politicians on the left and right know entitlements are unsustainable but fear the consequences of reforming them. In contrast, Tanner offers effective reforms to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid—changes that will improve our lives as well as prevent a fiscal meltdown. *Going for Broke* will interest every American concerned about our shared future.

About the Author Michael D. Tanner is director of health and welfare studies at the Cato Institute, co-editor of *Replacing Obamacare: The Cato Institute on Health Care Reform and Healthy Competition: What's Holding Back Health Care and How to Free It*, and author of *The Poverty of Welfare: Helping Others in Civil Society*.