

Battle Born PAC's Blog

On the front lines in the campaign against socialism.

- [home](#)
- [tags](#)
- [search](#)
- [feed](#)

[New Cell Phone Tax?](#)

Posted by: [Staff](#) in [Tax Reform](#) , [Fiscal Responsibility](#) on Mar 1, 2009

Barack Obama's proposed budget includes a [new hidden tax hike on cell phones](#) :

The Obama administration's proposal was loosely outlined in the new budget plan for 2009 and 2010 submitted Thursday. **In that plan, the administration proposes adding a new fee to be paid by wireless carriers that license wireless spectrum from the government**

These annual fees would start at \$50 million in 2009 and jump to \$200 million in 2010, Reuters reported. The fees will gradually increase over the next 10 years to \$550 million per user per year, generating an estimated total of \$4.8 billion over the next decade.

The proposed fees are in addition to license fees that operators have already paid the federal government as part of its wireless auctions. The Federal Communications Commission has been auctioning off wireless spectrum to phone companies and other entities since the 1990s. These auctions grant license holders exclusive rights to the spectrum in exchange for cash.

Obama's plan may be a fee on wireless carriers, but anyone with a cell phone knows that [government fees charged to wireless carriers are passed directly to consumers](#). Making Obama's proposal a new tax on every cell phone user.

[\[Back \]](#)
