

# **Bush Budget Hides Cost of President's Policies**

**“[T]here are no good reasons for hiding the cost of all these endeavors or denying their consequences. New private retirement accounts could cost \$1.5 trillion from 2011 to 2015 and add \$100 billion a year to the budget deficit for 20 years. Making tax cuts permanent could cost \$2 trillion. Fixing the AMT could cost an additional \$500 billion. These are real numbers that should be included in any real budget. If President Bush believes the policies proposed are best for the nation, then he should lead an honest dialogue about how we should pay for them.”**

**–*Business Week*, “Wanted: An Honest Budget”  
February 14, 2005**