

Perry: Small-Government Zealot or Spendthrift?

Opponents hope Rick Perry's spending record as governor may be his Achilles' heel.

During the debate at the Reagan Library last week, the Romney campaign blasted out an e-mail to reporters entitled, "Perry's Record on Spending," with an ominous warning that "under Perry's leadership, total state spending has increased by an average of nearly 17 percent each budget cycle." Keep Conservatives United, a PAC supporting Michele Bachmann's candidacy, released a TV ad earlier this month charging Perry with "doubl[ing] spending in a decade."

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