

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY UPDATE

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This week, President Obama held an “Insourcing American Jobs” forum with business leaders across the country to discuss the critical priority of bringing jobs back to America, and on Friday, he announced a new plan to make our government leaner, smarter and more consumer-friendly – starting with consolidating six agencies into one more efficient department to promote competitiveness, exports and American business. Additionally, Vice President Biden addressed New Hampshire Democrats at house parties across the state during Tuesday’s primary – as Democrats saw the Granite State primary as an important opportunity to expand our robust grassroots organization and continue laying the groundwork for victory in November.

As the Republican presidential candidates continued their battle for the GOP nomination with Tuesday’s New Hampshire primary and then moved into South Carolina in advance of next week’s primary, the Democratic National Committee and local and state Democrats in New Hampshire, South Carolina and elsewhere continued their push to hold Mitt Romney and the rest of the GOP field accountable for their failed vision for America and out-of-touch positions. Additionally, with recent comments from Romney this week that demonstrate he has no idea what working and middle-class families are going through in this country, and with the entire premise of his general election candidacy beginning to come apart, the DNC honed in on Romney’s ineffective leadership and say-anything-to-win approach with multiple web videos and a wide range of press conferences, media availabilities, calls, statements and other activities.

President Obama Holds Roundtable Meeting on Insourcing American Jobs

The President and Vice President this week hosted an “Insourcing American Jobs” forum with business leaders from across the country to discuss the issue of bringing jobs back to the United States. As President Obama has emphasized, for too long factories have closed their doors and companies have shipped jobs overseas. This has harmed our economy and hurt working and middle-class families across the country – and the President wants to change that. Following the meeting, President Obama delivered remarks to leaders from the government and private sector who are taking steps to encourage companies to insource and invest in America. During the remarks, he said:



“All these folks onstage, they are businesspeople first, and they’re looking at the bottom line. But they also feel good about the fact that they’re restoring hope and creating jobs here in the United States. And that’s part of the responsibility that comes with being a leader in America — a responsibility not just to the shareholders or the stakeholders, but to the country that made all this incredible wealth and opportunity possible. That’s a responsibility that we all have to live up to —

whether we're in the private sector or the public sector; whether we're in Washington or we're on Wall Street. Because the more Americans who succeed, the more America succeeds.

"So my message to business leaders today is simple: Ask yourselves what you can do to bring jobs back to the country that made our success possible. And I'm going to do everything in my power to help you do it. We're going to have to seize this moment. American workers are the most productive and competitive in the world right now. When you factor in all the costs, we have a outstanding market; we have the most innovative entrepreneurs, the best research universities. And part of what our session this morning was all about was just helping people to take a look at what this moment is and where we're going to be five years from now. Because when people take a second look, it turns out that the potential for job growth and American manufacturing and the service industry is incredible."

Watch video of the President's remarks [here](#).

The President Announces Government Reform Plan to Make It Easier to Do Business in America

In an effort to make our government leaner, smarter and more consumer-friendly, the President on Friday called on Congress to reinstate the authority that past Presidents have had to reorganize the government. With the exception of President Ford, every President from Herbert Hoover to Ronald Reagan had reorganization authority. President Obama also laid out his first proposed use of that authority: consolidating six agencies into one more efficient department to promote competitiveness, exports and American business. During his remarks highlighting this new plan, the President said:

"Right now, there are six departments and agencies focused primarily on business and trade in the federal government. Six. Commerce Department, Small Business Administration, the U.S. Trade Representative's office. In this case, six is not better than one. Sometimes more is better; this is not one of those cases, because it produces redundancy and inefficiency. With the authority that I'm requesting today, we could consolidate them all into one department, with one website, one phone number, one mission: helping American businesses succeed. That's a big idea. (Applause.)



"We've put a lot of thought into this. Over the past year, we spoke with folks across the government and across the country. And most importantly, we spoke with businesses -- including hundreds of small businesses -- to hear what works and what doesn't when you deal with the government. What's frustrating, what's actually value added. And frankly, in those conversations, we found some unsatisfied customers. A lot of times what we heard was, you know what, the individual who I'm working with was really helpful to me, but the process itself is too confusing. Most of the complaints weren't about an unresponsive federal worker; they were about a system that was too much of a maze.

You can read the full transcript of the President's remarks [here](#).

As Democrats Use New Hampshire Primary as Opportunity to Expand Robust Grassroots Organization, Vice President Biden Addresses House Parties Across the State

On Tuesday, as voters headed to the polls for the New Hampshire primary, Democrats used the primary as an important opportunity to organize and expand our robust grassroots organization in the state. While Mitt Romney has already put his Manchester office up for rent, Democrats are staying in New Hampshire to win. OFA New Hampshire staff and volunteers have been laying the groundwork for victory in November – reaching out to tens of thousands of Granite State residents, holding more than 500 events statewide, having over 3,200 one-on-one meetings with local New Hampshire residents, and opening seven campaign offices across the state.

Vice President Biden addressed New Hampshire Democrats on primary night through a video teleconference with house parties across the state, in which he spoke directly to voters about his and the President's vision to reclaim the security the middle class has lost by restoring the basic values that made America great.



Holding Republicans Accountable

As the Republican presidential candidates continued their fight for the GOP nomination in New Hampshire, which held its primary on Tuesday, the Democratic National Committee and New Hampshire Democrats were in the Granite State to push back every step of the way. Setting up a War Room for local and national reporters, the DNC also worked with state and local Democrats to hold press conferences, media availabilities, calls and other activities in media markets across New Hampshire and in the surrounding area.

As part of these efforts, voters heard from Randy Johnson, a former Indiana plant worker who lost his job as a result of Mitt Romney's business practices as a corporate buyout specialist for Bain Capital. Johnson participated in a number of press conferences and calls to courageously tell his story and make sure voters know the truth – Romney continues to stake his entire candidacy on the notion that his "real world" experience in the private equity business makes him uniquely qualified to lead our economy and the nation, but in reality, he closed over a thousand plants, stores and offices, and he cut employee wages, benefits and pensions. He also laid off American workers – like Johnson – and outsourced their jobs to other countries, and he and his partners made hundreds of millions of dollars while taking companies to bankruptcy.

The DNC also released two web videos at the beginning of the week – the first, "#MittsBogusMath," dissects Mitt Romney's bogus claims about the number of jobs he created at Bain, and it can be viewed [here](#). The second video is titled "You're Fired!" and highlights Romney's claim earlier this week that he likes to fire people. Watch it [here](#).

Additionally, the DNC released a memo on the day of the New Hampshire primary, which said:

"As New Hampshire voters learn more about Mitt Romney, it becomes harder and harder to trust him. They see someone who will say anything to get elected, and someone who claims he cares about helping the

middle class but has played by a different set of rules than most Americans – one he writes for himself that is oriented towards creating profit at any cost. And the central rationale Romney has made for his candidacy – that his business experience and economic background make him fit to lead the country – is unraveling before our very eyes.”

After the results of the GOP primary came in – revealing that Romney came out on top, but the central rationale of his general election campaign has begun to come apart – DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz released a statement, saying:

“But what’s more troubling for Mitt Romney is the fact that the premise of his candidacy is unraveling. He leaves here wounded by a series of episodes that made it clear to voters—both in New Hampshire and for those watching across the country—that he is completely out of touch with the concerns of America’s working and middle-class families. Romney disingenuously claimed just a few days ago that he once feared getting a pink slip when in fact his campaign can’t offer any examples of when that might have been the case. Yesterday, he went as far as saying that he enjoys being able to fire people. He continues to call himself a job creator, but his accounts of creating 100,000 jobs at Bain



Capital have been knocked down across the board. Even worse, as one of his colleagues said, he never considered what they did at Bain Capital as job creation. What they did was make a profit while companies were sometimes driven to bankruptcy, workers were laid off, and jobs were sent overseas.”

DNC Chair Wasserman Schultz also issued a statement after the Republican National Committee filed a legal brief arguing that the more than century-long ban on corporate donations to federal political campaigns is unconstitutional. The statement said:

“While President Obama and his campaign have worked hard to limit the influence of the special interests in politics, Republicans are unfortunately taking a different route. Today the RNC is urging the courts to eliminate the ban on corporate donations to federal campaigns that has been around for more than one hundred years and they’re attacking small donors in the process. For a party that wants to dismantle Wall Street reform, roll back clean air protections, put insurance companies back in control of health care, and shower more tax breaks on corporations at the expense of middle class families, this is an unprecedented move that would give more influence, not less, to the special interests.

“Add to this a presidential frontrunner who has said that ‘corporations are people’ and ‘I like being able to fire people who provide services to me,’ and it’s clear who Republicans are standing up for—large corporations, millionaires, and billionaires. It’s not enough that Republicans are already benefiting from millions in special interest dollars going to outside groups run by the likes of Karl Rove—now the party wants that money for themselves.”

As the Republican candidates headed out of New Hampshire, the Ohio Democratic Party held a press conference call on Romney’s job-killing record and insensitive comments on the campaign trail – including his claim that he once

feared getting a pink slip – which show he is out-of-touch with middle-class Ohioans. Continuing with this theme, U.S. Congressman Sander Levin (D-MI) and state Senator Steve Bieda held a press conference call highlighting how Romney’s pattern of rooting against the auto industry – including his suggestion that we should “let Detroit go bankrupt,” which would have resulted in more than 1.4 million pink slips for American workers – will hurt him in Michigan.

Mitt Romney and the rest of the GOP field then made their way into South Carolina in advance of next Saturday’s primary. On Wednesday, Assistant Democratic Leader Jim Clyburn, Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin and state elected officials held a press conference welcoming Romney to South Carolina by reminding voters about his failed policies, job-killing record and recent out-of-touch remarks on the campaign trail. On Thursday, three City Councilors from Greer, South Carolina released a statement on Romney’s visit. Additionally, DNC Chair Wasserman Schultz, U.S. Congressman Ted Deutch (D-FL) and Greenville, South Carolina City Councilwoman Jil Littlejohn held a press conference call setting the record straight on Romney’s self-proclaimed record of creating jobs. On Friday, Assistant Democratic Leader Clyburn, State Rep. Bill Clyburn and State Senator Clementa Pinckney held a press call on Romney’s out-of-touch policies.

Finally, the DNC released a web video, “Don’t Just Take Our Word For It,” featuring coverage of Romney’s rivals for the GOP nomination attacking his record at Bain. You can watch it [here](#).

Key Issues in the News and Background

President Obama Encourages Businesses to Bring Jobs Back to America

Key Point: President Obama brings jobs back to America, Mitt Romney ships them overseas.

- President Obama yesterday called on American companies to invest in America at a White House forum on “Insourcing American Jobs.” His message to business leaders was simple: figure out what you need to bring jobs back to the country that made our success possible, and he’ll do whatever he can to make it happen.
- He will soon propose tax incentives that reward companies for returning jobs to our shores and eliminating tax breaks for companies that move American jobs overseas.
- We’re at a make-or-break moment for the middle class and those fighting to join it. For decades, hardworking Americans lost their jobs as factories were shipped overseas where labor was cheap.
- The President and the business leaders from Ford, Intel and other companies who joined him yesterday know this is the best time to bring those jobs back home where they belong.
 - American manufacturers have now grown by 334,000 jobs in the past two years.
 - In fact, manufacturing increased faster than it has since 2001, growing by 5.7 percent each year since June 2009.
- We’ve made progress, but we need to do more. If we want an economy built to last, the President believes we can’t build it on risky Wall Street financial deals or outsourcing jobs – we should build our economy by making things the rest of the world buys, where hard work pays off and responsibility is rewarded. He believes every American deserves economic security and a fair shot at the American Dream.
- In contrast to the President’s vision and record, Mitt Romney spent years in the private sector as a corporate raider, making hundreds of millions by shutting down American plants, sending thousands of jobs overseas and investing in businesses that helped even more companies do the same.
- Under Romney, Bain Capital bought Gartner Group, an IT consulting firm that specializes in advising companies on outsourcing. Gartner has held workshops, summits and online seminars that encouraged companies to “start considering other offshore destinations” and videos on “cutting costs with outsourcing.”

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President Obama Proposes Streamlined Government to Help Businesses Compete

Key Point: President Obama is fighting for government efficiency to help businesses compete and brings jobs back to America.

- President Obama today proposed the first government reorganization in decades, calling on Congress to give him the authority to reform the executive branch by consolidating six departments and agencies that all primarily deal with trade and business in the federal government.
- This is about making government leaner, smarter and more consumer-friendly to help businesses compete. The President said “We live in a 21st century economy, but we’ve still got a government organized for the 20th century. Our economy has fundamentally changed – as has the world – but the government has not. The needs of our citizens have fundamentally changed but their government has not.”
- The President built on his call earlier this week for American companies to invest in America at a White House forum on “Insourcing American Jobs.” His message to business leaders was simple: figure out what you need to bring jobs back to the country that made our success possible, and he’ll do whatever he can to make it happen.
- We’re at a make-or-break moment where we can help both businesses and the middle class and those fighting to join it. For decades, hardworking Americans lost their jobs as factories were shipped overseas where labor was cheap. Businesses had to inefficiently navigate the redundancy of six major departments.
- We’ve made progress, but we need to do more. If we want an economy built to last, the President believes we can’t build it on risky Wall Street financial deals or outsourcing jobs – we should build our economy by making things the rest of the world buys, where hard work pays off and responsibility is rewarded.
- President Obama believes every American deserves economic security and a fair shot at the American Dream, and that every business can better succeed when there’s one, focused department dedicated to encouraging job creation and growing our economy.

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New Hampshire Primary is Opportunity to Expand Robust Grassroots Organization

- **Key Point:** NH primary is an opportunity to organize, expand robust organization.
- Today’s New Hampshire primary is an opportunity to build on the enthusiasm we saw in Iowa for the President’s reelection and preserving the change we’ve delivered together.
- Vice President Biden will be calling and live-streaming via webcast tonight into house parties across the state, speaking directly to voters about his and the President’s vision to reclaim the security the middle class has lost by restoring the basic values that made this country great.
- Iowa reflected the strength of our grassroots organization. We’ve been building and mobilizing our tested and trained neighborhood teams, led by thousands of core volunteers in every state. They’re talking to voters over the phone, at doorsteps and in living rooms, coffee shops and community centers across the country.

- No matter what happens today, one thing is for sure – tomorrow we will have the strongest grassroots organization and campaign infrastructure in place of any candidate going forward.
 - Mitt Romney has already literally put his Manchester office up for rent, but we're staying in New Hampshire to win.
- This wasn't created overnight. Since the launch of the re-election campaign in April, OFA New Hampshire staff and volunteers have been organizing neighborhood by neighborhood and block by block. They're talking to friends, family and co-workers, holding trainings, planning sessions, house parties and phone banks.
- To build the campaign for November, OFA New Hampshire staff and volunteers have:
 - Reached out to tens of thousands of New Hampshire residents.
 - Held over 500 events across the state.
 - Had over 3,200 one-on-one meetings with local New Hampshire residents.
 - Opened seven campaign offices across the state.
- 2012 is about expanding the unrivaled organization we've built over the past year.
 - President Bush received 18.6 percent of the total votes cast in 2004, and 78 percent of the votes as an uncontested incumbent in the Republican primary. We anticipate receiving a share of the vote in that range.
- While Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum fight for Republican votes by running to the right of the Tea Party, our supporters are talking about President Obama's vision for a job-creating economy that's built to last – one where hard work pays, responsibility is rewarded, and everyone does their fair share and plays by the same rules.

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Romney Promises More to Tea Party, Runs Further Right on Immigration

Key Point: Mitt Romney continues run to right; promises to Tea Party on immigration will hurt him in the general election.

- Mitt Romney is still pandering to the Tea Party Republicans. He proudly announced yesterday the endorsement of Kris Kobach, the man behind Arizona's and Alabama's extremist anti-immigration laws.
- *The New York Times* today called out Romney for having "[lurched toward the extremist right](#)" on immigration. It said Romney "has shed all good sense" in promising to veto the DREAM Act, which would allow responsible young immigrants who came here as children and know no other home to earn a path to citizenship by going to college or serving in the military.
- Romney's hard-right, Tea Party promises are alienating him from mainstream American voters and will hurt him the general election.

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Romney Tries to Defend Job-Killing Record, But Voters Deserve to Know Truth

Key Point: Voters deserve to know the truth about Mitt Romney's record before making a choice about who should lead the country.

- The campaign released a [memo](#) today on Mitt Romney asking voters to judge him on his economic record. Romney has staked his entire candidacy on one claim: that his “real world” experience in the private equity business uniquely qualifies him to lead our economy and the nation.
- But that experience – which his own former partner [conceded](#) was focused purely on wealth-creation, not job-creation – involved closing over a thousand plants, stores and offices, and cutting employee wages, benefits and pensions. He fired American workers and outsourced their jobs to other countries.
- Although some of the businesses in which he took a stake undoubtedly added jobs, neither Romney’s campaign nor any independent fact checker has supported his claim of producing a net increase of 100,000 American jobs – or even anything close to it.
- That is Romney’s record. His overwrought response to questions about it has been to insist that any criticism of his business record is an assault on “free enterprise” itself.
- But Romney is just trying to evade legitimate scrutiny of the record on which he says he’s running. “Free enterprise” isn’t running for President, Mitt Romney is. And voters deserve straight answers about his record, so they can know how his perspective would influence his decisions and actions if he were President of the United States.
- Romney doesn’t believe in an economy built to last, where the productivity of our workers is rewarded. He believes in an economy based on outsourcing, and bubbles that enrich speculators and corporate raiders like him.
- Wall Street greed and recklessness caused the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The American people have the right to know the facts so they can decide whether to elect a corporate raider who profited from, and promises to restore, the conditions that caused it – or re-elect a President fighting to level the playing field for American businesses, restore fairness for consumers and help the middle class reclaim economic security that will benefit the entire economy.

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