

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

August 27, 2010

This week, the DNC celebrated Women's Equality Day and looked ahead to the fall elections – focusing on a major "Moving America Forward" canvass to take place this weekend and efforts to point out Republicans' continued advocacy of the failed economic policies of the Bush era.

What's Happening?

DNC Meeting in St. Louis: Following last week's Summer Meeting, DNC Chairman Tim Kaine sent an email to DNC members recapping the events that took place in St. Louis and looking ahead at the work to be done before the fall elections. Said Chairman Kaine:



"I'm proud to report that the DNC Summer Meeting in St. Louis this past weekend was a rousing success.

"Messages from outstanding Democratic leaders – including the Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, Missouri's great Senator Claire McCaskill, and Vice President Joe Biden – were a strong reminder of why our Party will be successful this Fall. We are the Party that continues to move America forward, while Republican candidates continue to focus on the extreme policies of the Tea Party that would only take us backward...I hope you're as energized as I am...and ready to proudly work over the next seven weeks for Democratic victories in November."

If you weren't able to attend the DNC Summer Meeting yourself, you can check out some of the highlights of the meeting at http://www.democrats.org/a/2010/08/biden_a_choice.php.

Women's Equality Day: This Thursday was Women's Equality Day, which was established by Congress in 1971 to commemorate the ratification of the 19th Amendment and to recognize women's ongoing struggle to achieve full equality. In celebration of the day, DNC Chairman Kaine said:

"Today marks the anniversary of the day, ninety years ago, when the U.S. Secretary of State certified the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. In the nine decades since – and even in the four decades since Women's Equality Day was officially declared – women have made tremendous progress. They have used their votes and their voices to press for equality not only in the voting booth but in every facet of American life – from the workplace to the sports field and everywhere in between.

"On this day, we celebrate that incredible progress and the ability of all American women to participate freely in public life on an equal basis with American men. But we must also acknowledge that the fight for full equality has not ended – the wage gap between women and men persists, the Glass Ceiling persists, and other challenges persist. President Obama and Democratic leaders in Congress are working hard to help women overcome those challenges and to tear down the remaining barriers to equality. Through laws such as the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, the first act signed by President Obama after he took office, and historic steps such as the nomination and confirmation of two incredibly qualified women to the Supreme Court – as many women as had previously served in the entire history of our country – we are making progress, but there is still much to be done.

"So this Women's Equality Day, I join women and men across America in reaffirming the fundamental truth that a group of forward-looking women's activists asserted more than 150 years ago: that all men and women are created equal, and recommitting to supporting our leaders as they work to ensure that our country recognizes and fosters that equality in every aspect of American life."

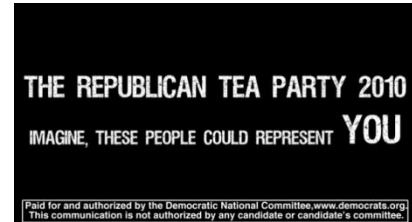
Holding Republicans Accountable



Big Choices: Last Friday, the DNC unveiled a new national television ad, “Big Choices,” that illustrates the choice voters will face this fall between Democrats who have taken the bold action necessary to pull America back from the brink of a second Great Depression and get our country back on track, and Republicans who continue to advocate the failed Bush-era policies that got our country into trouble in the first place.

You can check out the ad for yourself at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0elc7FUAETo>.

“GOP Tea Party”: On Friday, the DNC launched a new web video, “GOP Tea Party: These People Could Be in Charge,” as part of a coordinated effort across Democratic campaigns and committees to highlight a corrosive trend developing within the Republican-Tea Party. “GOP Tea Party: These People Could be in Charge” features radicalized candidates whose extreme agenda would not just take America back to the days of failed Bush policies, but rewind the clock to the days before Social Security, Medicare, Civil Rights, Voting Rights, Women’s Rights, and before social safety nets like unemployment insurance were in place.



You can watch the ad yourself at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCdh2qFl7JI>.

John Boehner: On Tuesday, House Minority Leader John Boehner delivered an address at the City Club of Cleveland, ostensibly to lay out the Republican Party’s economic agenda. Unfortunately, but not unexpectedly, that address contained no new ideas, but merely consisted of cheap attack lines and the repetition of failed policies and disproven ideology. In advance of the Minority Leader’s speech, the DNC held a conference call with reporters, detailing Boehner’s stale ideas and his long and cozy history with Washington lobbyists and other special interests. On that call, DNC Vice Chairwoman and Florida Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz gave a prescient preview of Boehner’s speech:

“His speech is likely to include a myriad of attacks that have been repeated by Boehner and his Republican colleagues for the last 20 months... We’ll hear attacks on Democrats as ‘big spenders’ despite the fact that it was Republicans who squandered a \$234 billion dollar surplus that they inherited from President Clinton, and then they high-tailed it out of town and left behind a mountain of debt and a \$1.3 trillion dollar deficit... And while [these attacks] add to the political noise coming out of Washington, they won’t provide any clarity on what Mr. Boehner would do if Republicans were put back in power. Because what you won’t hear is actually what Republicans would do... All they promise is an end to the policies that helped get us out of this mess and a return to the policies that led us to the mess in the first place.”

Following John Boehner’s speech, the DNC released a new web ad entitled “John Boehner Knows the Ways of Washington: He Invented Them.” The ad details John Boehner’s backward-thinking agenda – one that calls for a return to the failed policies of the Bush era – and his close relationship with lobbyists.

You can check it out for yourself at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AvwkdXNQfw4>.

Organizing for America

“Moving America Forward” Canvass: This weekend, Organizing for America is holding a national “Moving America Forward” canvass, with the ambitious goal of knocking on 200,000 doors in just 48 hours. During the canvass, volunteers will reach out to 2008 first time voters, sporadic voters, and newly registered voters to talk to them about the importance of electing strong Democrats who will stand with President Obama to keep America moving in the right direction. In advance of the “Moving America Forward” canvass, David Plouffe sent an email to OFA activists highlighting the importance of this weekend’s effort. He said:

“In 2009 and earlier this year, Organizing for America volunteers like you used the lessons learned in 2008 to win historic victories reining in Wall Street and reforming a broken health care system. But now we need

to protect those gains and keep moving America forward -- which means we've got to get back on the doors, talking to voters about how important it is to vote this fall...

"If Republicans win back control of Congress, we know what will happen: endless investigations into ginned-up controversies, non-stop attempts to repeal the progress we've made, and a complete drive to stop us from moving this country forward. But we cannot go backward..."

"To protect what we've won and keep the change coming...we need to keep fighting to get folks to the polls this fall. We know -- from our own experience and research -- that nothing has more of an effect on voter behavior than real conversations. That's why OFA volunteers getting people to commit to voting -- on doorsteps and on the phone -- could well be the deciding factor in close races across the country."

To find out how you can get involved this weekend and make a difference in this fall's elections, you can visit <http://my.barackobama.com/MAEvents>.

Key Issues in the News and Background

TALKING POINTS: REPUBLICANS OFFER MORE OF THE SAME FAILED ECONOMIC POLICIES

Today, House Minority Leader John Boehner delivered a speech outlining Congressional Republicans' economic goals. Unfortunately, their vision for the future is a return to the same failed Republican economic policies that helped to create the worst recession since the Great Depression. Republican leaders want to enact more tax breaks for the wealthy; they support less oversight of Wall Street banks; and they would place a heavier burden on hard-working middle-class Americans.

- **Under the leadership of President Obama and Congressional Democrats, America is finally getting out of the enormous hole that Republicans helped to dig our country into.**
 - After 22 consecutive months of job losses, private sector employers have now added jobs for seven months in a row.
 - This Administration is reducing government spending and cutting the deficit by more than \$1 trillion over the next decade.
 - This Administration is investing in America's future by laying a stronger economic foundation and supporting better education for our children.
 - This Administration is cutting taxes and helping America's small businesses to access needed capital.
 - This Administration is ending special interests' hold over Washington.
- **John Boehner's math simply doesn't add up when it comes to tax cuts for American families.** In these difficult economic times, middle class Americans simply can't afford higher taxes. That's why President Obama has called for the extension of tax cuts for 98 percent of Americans. But Republicans want to spend an additional \$700 billion to give millionaires a \$100,000-a-year tax cut.
- **Republicans' tax cut for millionaires won't benefit Main Street businesses.** The vast majority of small businesses – more than 97 percent of them – would not qualify for the millionaire tax cuts advocated by Minority Leader Boehner. He is quite simply advocating a Wall Street tax cut, not a Main Street tax cut. And few mainstream economists believe that such cuts will promote economic growth or recovery – because the people who would benefit already have a great deal of money to spend.
- **If Republicans are serious about promoting economic recovery, they should stop obstructing the small business tax cuts that they've been holding up for months in Congress.** President Obama has outlined a series of proposals that would make it easier for small businesses to get off the ground, expand, and take on new workers. He has cut small business taxes eight times and supported access to capital that will help small businesses to grow and thrive. But there's still more to be done. Republicans should stop blocking new small business tax breaks and lending incentives that can spur small business hiring.
- **Minority Leader Boehner is willfully ignoring the Republican Party's record – and he's hoping American voters will do the same.** During the eight years before President Obama took office,

Republican leaders took a record surplus and turned it into a record \$1.3 trillion deficit. Their irresponsible economic policies set the stage for the worst economic recession since the Great Depression – a recession that resulted in 22 consecutive months of job losses.

- **Minority Leader Boehner and other Congressional Republicans aren't offering anything new.** If Republicans were in control of Congress, they have said they would go back to "the exact same agenda" they were advocating before President Obama took office. They still believe the policies they enacted during the Bush Administration were the right policies – despite the fact that millions of Americans saw their paychecks shrink or lost their jobs, houses, and savings as a result of those policies. Americans don't want to go back to the failed policies of the past. They want to go forward.