

Ensuring American Safety, Prosperity, and Freedom In the 21st Century

Examples of Proposed Solutions

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12 American Solutions for Jobs & Prosperity

Washington solutions of more money for more government, more power for politicians, more debt, and more bureaucrats will not lead to real growth in jobs and prosperity.

We need a clear and decisive alternative that creates jobs and rewards work, saving, and investment.

Endorse the Plan at www.AmericanSolutions.com/Jobs

1. **Payroll Tax Stimulus.** With a temporary new tax credit to offset 50% of the payroll tax, every small business would have more money, and all Americans would take home more of what they earn.
2. **Real Middle-Income Tax Relief.** Reduce the marginal tax rate of 25% down to 15%, in effect establishing a flat-rate tax of 15% for close to 9 out of 10 American workers.
3. **Reduce the Business Tax Rate.** Match Ireland's rate of 12.5% to keep more jobs in America.
4. **Homeowner's Assistance.** Provide tax credit incentives to responsible home buyers so they can keep their homes.
5. **Control Spending So We Can Move to a Balanced Budget.** This begins with eliminating Congressional earmarks and wasteful pork-barrel spending.
6. **No State Aid Without Protection From Fraud.** Require state governments to adopt anti-fraud and anti-theft policies before giving them more money.
7. **More American Energy Now.** Explore for more American oil and gas and invest in affordable energy for the future, including clean coal, ethanol, nuclear power and renewable fuels.
8. **Abolish Taxes on Capital Gains.** Match China, Singapore and many other competitors. More investment in America means more jobs in America.
9. **Protect the Rights of American Workers.** We must protect a worker's right to decide by secret ballot whether to join a union, and a worker's right to negotiate freely. Forced unionism will kill jobs at a time when we can't afford to lose them.
10. **Replace Sarbanes-Oxley.** This failed law is crippling entrepreneurial startups. Replace it with affordable rules that help create jobs, not destroy them.
11. **Abolish the Death Tax.** Americans should work for their families, not for Washington.
12. **Invest in Energy and Transportation Infrastructure.** This includes a new, expanded electric power grid and a 21st century air traffic control system that will reduce delays in air travel and save passengers, employees and airlines billions of dollars per year.

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Jobs Here. Jobs Now. Jobs First

4 Key Steps For Jobs And Prosperity

The big government spending programs have failed to produce jobs and economic growth.

More of the same government spending programs will also fail.

The American people require an alternative that will succeed.

The following four tax cuts will help create **jobs here** and **jobs now** and fundamentally shift power in America from politicians to small business, from lobbyists to entrepreneurs, and from bureaucrats to investors.

We should create **jobs first**, before we spend any more on government programs.

1. **Immediate Payroll Tax Relief.** Whereas many people do not pay the income tax but do pay the payroll tax, a two-year, 50% reduction of the payroll tax would immediately boost take home pay for every employee, and dramatically free up available cash for every small business employer to hire and invest. Among other sources, this would be paid for with all the unexpended TARP money, along with \$300 to \$400 billion of the unspent “stimulus” spending authorized in February.
2. **Reduce the Corporate Tax Rate.** Combining state and federal taxes, America has the highest corporate tax system in the world. Matching the Irish corporate tax rate of 12.5%, combined with zero capital gains, will make America the most desirable economy in the world to invest in.
3. **Abolish Taxes on Capital Gains.** Matching the Chinese capital gains rate of zero is relatively inexpensive in the current economy because people are going to have smaller gains. In the 1970’s, this is the rate that Alan Greenspan testified was best for economic growth.
4. **Abolish the Death Tax.** Inheritance is the most powerful accumulator of capital and eliminating the death tax has been consistently supported by over 75% of the American people.

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Learning that works. *We need a clarion call that gets everyone focused on education to: build our communities; grow opportunities for more and better jobs; maintain the United States' international competitiveness; and secure the future of this country and the future of our children. This includes everybody, including adults that were left behind.*

Following are six proposed solutions so that every American can get ahead in the 21st Century.

Transparency about achievement

- 1** *Education everywhere should prepare a student for life anywhere, so America must set a rigorous, common state standard that says that every student everywhere will have mastered the same skills in their education. Allow for local innovation to implement these standards.*

Pay for Performance

- 2** *We must reward the best teachers. The best educated and most capable teachers are the most likely to leave, so we must allow them the opportunity to advance their careers. We must objectively judge the best teachers using student test data and outside performance reviewers. Top teachers turn into innovators, a lesson we have seen with Teach for America.*

Allow parental choice in schooling

- 3** *Develop solutions that put choice in parents' hands. Parents should be allowed to choose which school their taxpayer dollars will support to educate their children. More choice also allows for greater innovation and higher standards.*

A no-limits charter school system

A charter school system must be allowed to innovate and flourish without limit.

- 4**
- All of the money allocated for student education goes directly to the school.
 - The school manages its own staff, whereby it is exempt from laws regarding tenure, and need not unionize.
 - The school defines its own curriculum, in line with the state standards and assessments. Students in charters are not exempt from state assessments. The schools are not exempt from reporting requirements, nor should they be.
 - State law allows the school to "franchise" its model without limitation. That means they need not apply for a new school every time they can build a new one. If they have the demand, they must be able to serve it.
 - The state has NO CAPS on the number of charter schools that can be approved, and the process for approving charter schools is smooth and efficient.

Implement an early-learner program

- 5** *Every state should adopt an early learner program so students could learn faster than the state curriculum, and students who can graduate early could be awarded the cost of the years they skip as scholarships toward college or vocational-tech school.*

Invite experts to be part-time teachers

- 6** *Every state should open their systems up to part-time expert teachers so that retired physicists, neighborhood pharmacists, or local accountants could teach one or two hours a day and bring knowledge to the classroom and business-like adult expectations to the students.*

More American Energy Now. *America is suffering from an artificial energy crisis that is also a dangerous national security crisis – artificial because America is endowed with enormous reserves of energy, and dangerous because it makes us vulnerable to unreliable and potentially hostile countries. Here are ten proposed American Solutions to provide long term energy affordability and energy security.*

Drill Here, Drill Now -- Offshore

- 1** America has an estimated 19 billion barrels of oil and 85.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas offshore that is currently not being developed. The President and Congress lifted the offshore drilling bans last year, but the Department of the Interior must now move ahead with offshore leasing so that exploration can begin. Congress should allow coastal states to share revenue from leases 50-50.

Drill Here, Drill Now -- Alaska

- 2** A small area of the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR) in Alaska has an estimated 10.4 billion barrels of oil and would require drilling in an area the size of Los Angeles International airport to develop. It is time for the Congress to authorize drilling in ANWR.

Lift the ban on development of oil shale in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah

- 3** Oil shale is rock that contains oil that is released when heated. A government study estimates that there are at least 800 billion barrels of currently recoverable oil trapped in shale in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah. Modern technological advances show great promise in being able to obtain this oil without harm to the environment. It is time for Congress to lift the ban on developing oil shale.

Encourage building oil refineries and natural gas processing plants

- 4** Right now it is so expensive to build refineries and natural gas processing plants that most companies do not even try. We should change the tax code immediately to allow a company the benefits of depreciation within five years. We should also allow companies to write off 100 percent of their expenses in the first year if their new refineries significantly expand refining capacity. These are significant incentives to start building.

Reduce bureaucratic obstacles and prevent frivolous litigation

- 5** Currently eight agencies are required to approve permits before on-shore drilling can begin. The company has to wait for one permit to be approved before the approval process for the next can begin. We should assign permitting to one federal agency. We should also pass laws that diminish frivolous law suits, such as a "loser pays" rule for litigants.

Encourage new clean coal development plants

- 6** We should fund clean coal projects that create the possibility for a wide range of experimental breakthroughs for America's most abundant and lowest cost energy. These plants could be built on a cost share basis with electricity generating companies and with an agreement that any profit from their success would be split evenly with the federal government until the taxpayers were repaid for the investment.

Open Fuel Standard for New Automobiles

- 7** Congress should set a standard that most new cars will be built with a flex fuel engine so that a competitive market can be developed in transportation fuels, and provide auto companies with tax credits to help with the transition costs associated with this new standard.

Prizes to Accelerate Breakthroughs in Alternative Energy Technologies

- 8** Congress should develop a series of prizes to encourage alternative energy sources, such as carbon reduction technologies, a mass market car that gets 100 miles per gallon, and hydrogen fuel cells.

Invest in nuclear power

- 9** Not a single nuclear plant has been built in America since 1979. At least 34 new nuclear plants will be needed by 2030 just to maintain nuclear power's current 20% share of our electricity generation. Nuclear power is emissions free, very safe and reliable, and can be operated 24 hours a day. We must support construction of more nuclear plants.

Keep the tax credit for enhanced oil recovery (EOR)

- 10** Enhanced oil recovery could increase domestic oil production by as much as 3 million barrels per day by 2030, while capturing and storing billions of tons of carbon emissions. President Obama's FY2010 budget would remove the tax credit for this technique, even though it is a proven oil recovery method that has been safely utilized for 30 years, most notably in the Permian Basin of West Texas.