

DAPAC DISPATCH

Democratic Advancement Political Action Committee

Grassroots Activism for Progressive Democrats

May, 2016

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It's the Economy, Stupid!

Bill Clinton famously had this sign on his desk when he was president.

Well, now we have the middle class and the struggling lower class in much worse shape than when Bill Clinton was president. We have the worst income inequality since 1910. The income for the bottom 80% has dropped 14% in the last seven years and is projected to drop another 2% this year. In contrast, the overall increase in incomes is entirely situated in the top 10% of the economy. It is unfair, but that is how our economy is designed to be driven by unfair government policy. **Who is in the upper 10%? Individuals making over \$70,000 per year or families making over \$118,000 per year.**

Did you know there was a big tax increase recently on the middle class? After the economic collapse in 2008, there was a payroll tax holiday put in place. Taxes on the bottom 80% were lowered by about 28% and raised on one-percenters to make it revenue neutral. This was removed by Republicans, along with conservative Democrats, over the Christmas break 18 months ago while no one was paying attention.

The good news, this election year, is that progressives can take the presidency, the senate, the house and the supreme court. This would lead to the most progressive government since 1932 with FDR. It would lead to a rapid expansion of the economy, the middle class, liberal values, social justice and respect for women's rights, minority rights, and immigrant rights. We are on the verge of a progressive rebirth in this country with this election.

Join us and you can be part of a new positive wave of social and economic justice in the country!

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It's the Senate and the Supreme Court, Stupid!

You have an historic opportunity to make a massive change for America's progressive future with this senate election.

If we take back the Senate this year, **we will change policy in the United States for more than the next thirty years** with the rare opportunity to change the prior conservative majority in the Supreme Court.

With the appointment of Antonin Scalia, Ronald Reagan determined policy for thirty-six years, with over 28 of those years **after** he left office. Scalia took his role seriously, impeding social and economic progress for 36 years.

Taking back the Senate now, along with electing a Democratic president, gives us the opportunity to put a liberal majority on the Supreme Court. Even if we don't elect a Democratic president, then a Democratic Senate can hold up putting another conservative on the Supreme Court forever. Did you know with Scalia we had five conservatives, all Catholics, and four are members of Opus Die, an influential conservative Catholic organization.

A 71% majority of Senate members who are up for election this term are Republicans. Many of

those Republicans are up in Democratic-leaning States in this presidential election year. Also, in presidential years Democratic turnout goes up over 50%. The likelihood of these three things happening together again will not probably happen for another sixteen years.

In our model of trend analysis, we project that it is highly probable to take eight seats from Republicans. Five of our endorsed candidates are currently leading by large margins. Another five are in toss-up districts.

We have an opportunity to eliminate people being mistreated by unfair laws such as **women losing their right to choice by the Hyde Amendment**. Many other women are losing their right to healthcare by other restrictive rulings and laws. I ran against Henry Hyde as the Democratic nominee for his House seat. The Hyde Amendment is used to restrict federal funds from being used for abortions is still used today by the Republican Party. **It was attached to the Affordable Care Act years after Henry Hyde's retirement**. The Supreme Court refused to hear cases that would overturn this law. **Other citizen rights are also being being obstructed, for example, state ID voting laws, employment laws, unequal access to education, and workers' rights to organize.**

If we take the Senate back you will change policy in the United States for over the next thirty years.

An Open Letter Of Gratitude From DAPAC To Mitch Mc Connell

Dear Senator McConnell:

DAPAC would like to express a deep gratitude to you and to those of your colleagues who have refused to consider President Obama's nomination for the Supreme Court vacancy created by the sudden death of Associate Justice Antonin Scalia.

Our gratitude does not stem from the fact that you and your colleagues have tried to turn the U.S. Supreme court and our federal judiciary into an institution that is of the Republicans, by the Republicans, for the Republicans and for the moneyed interests served by the Republican party. Nor does the gratitude stem from the fact that you have shown an unforgivable contempt for constitutional process.

We are grateful because you have concentrated national attention upon an issue dear to the hearts of liberal organizations (DAPAC/People for the American Way). You have probably done more than any of these organizations to help voters to grasp the idea that the integrity of our nation's judiciary can depend upon which president gets to make nominations to fill Supreme Court and federal court vacancies. And you could not have picked a better time.

Two thousand sixteen is a very unusual election year. Many Republican senators are up for re-election, namely 24. Contrast this to the number of Democratic seats in play, which is ten. This numerical imbalance affords a wonderful opportunity to return the Senate to Democratic control. Democratic control will enable Democratic senators to exercise their advice and consent power to allow a Democratic president to replace Scalia type jurists with men and women of real integrity.

Senator McConnell, you may have done more than anybody to inspire support for a Democratic Senate and for those Democratic organizations dedicated to the well being of the American people. This is probably the only time in your career that you have actually served your country, albeit by accident. Thank you.

NEW Endorsed Candidates!

Katie McGinty For U.S. Senate, PA

Katie McGinty comes from a career focused on repairing and protecting the environment through

both private business and governmental intervention. **She worked with Sen. Al Gore to strengthen the Clean Air Act. She worked for President Clinton as the head of the White House Council on Environmental Quality.** She also worked under Gov. Rendell leading the staff of 3,000 in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

She is now focused on developing clean energy to stop dependence on carbon-based energy to eliminate climate change, environmental degradation along with developing the economy with new clean industries that would bring new jobs.

She understands the need Americans have for quality educational opportunities, both through high school and beyond. The economy demands education and training beyond high school now and we must make these opportunities available and affordable to all.

McGinty will make repairing and developing our infrastructure a priority to meet the needs of our communities and businesses. The projects improving infrastructure will provide good-paying jobs for middle-class Americans and improve the quality of life in our communities.

She will work to provide affordable and accessible healthcare for all who need medical, mental and behavioral healthcare. Her opponent has repeatedly challenged Obamacare which would eliminate healthcare for millions of Americans who desperately need it.

McGinty pledges to protect women's rights through elimination of the pay gap, and providing for family paid medical leave. She will fight to support Planned Parenthood and women's right to privacy.

She will fight for LGBT equality through her work against hate crimes and discrimination in housing, healthcare or employment in private or military employment or in the services they need.

McGinty believes in providing Medicare and Social Security services without changing these systems into voucher systems that would require

increased co-payments as Republicans have often supported.

Katie McGinty will be a strong Democratic Senator who will work to advance progressive goals in the Senate.

Website: <http://katiemcginty.com/>

Morgan Carroll, CO-06

Morgan was a representative in the Colorado House from 2005 to 2008, and a State Senator from 2009 to 2015 where she worked for transparency. She has a law degree and focused on people with disabilities and those whose rights were threatened in her practice.

As a congressional representative, she plans to focus on developing the economy to provide good-paying jobs, reducing student debt, provide for retirement security, develop renewable energy, support LGBTQ rights and equality, provide needed services for our veterans, develop campaign finance reform and provide a path to citizenship for immigrant families and change policies to keep immigrant families together. She will continue to fight for women's rights against conservative efforts to restrict women's access to services as she has in the state government.

Website: <http://carrollforcolorado.com/>

DuWayne Gregory, NY-2

DuWayne Gregory is an Army veteran and presiding Suffolk County Officer, **the first African American to hold this office**, who is running **against the current Republican incumbent, Peter King**, for the U.S. House seat. While in the county legislature, he worked on stronger gun controls to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, assisted in Hurricane Sandy relief, efforts to attract high-tech jobs, and renewal of downtown areas.

DuWayne pledges to strengthen Social Security and to ensure that it will continue to be available for future generations and to fight efforts to change Medicare to a voucher program that would increase costs for those who use this program to meet healthcare needs.

He also will work to develop a comprehensive immigration program with a path to citizenship and strong border protections. DuWayne will work to provide quality educational opportunities from the local level through college with a focus to reducing student costs for college. He will also focus on developing clean energy and reduce tax subsidies to the gas and oil industries. He will also defend the environment.

DuWayne will work to provide services veterans need when they return from service. He will also ensure that the country has the strong defense systems we need to meet both domestic and international threats.

Website:

<http://duwaynegregory.com/home/>

Jamie Raskin, MD-08

Jamie Raskin is running to fill the House seat being vacated by Chris Van Hollen who is running for the US Senate seat in MD. He has held a seat in the MD state senate for three terms, and is a professor of constitutional law at American University's Washington College of Law.

He has been a strong and consistent leader for progressive values and the people's constitutional rights in Maryland and the United States. Jamie plans to fight against climate change while focusing on the costs of relying on carbon-based energy, reducing gun violence, increasing economic opportunity, and protecting women's reproductive choice and right to healthcare. He will protect Medicare and Social Security, will fight to change the Roberts' Supreme Court, defend workers' union rights, protect public

health, increase access to quality and affordable education, eliminating the Tea Party and the political right's stranglehold on Congress and attacks on the constitution, and will fight for the humane treatment of animals.

Website: <https://jamieraskin.com/>

Adriano Espaillat, NY-13

Adriano Espaillat is running for the congressional seat of retiring Rep. Rangel. He is currently serving in the New York state senate where is the Chair of the Senate Puerto Rican/Latino Caucus; he is also a member of the Environmental Conservation, Economic Development and several other committees. Sen. Adriano is a past member of the state assembly and has served on several local government boards. **He supports women's right to choose, will work to develop affordable housing, a livable wage for all workers and a stronger economy that improves the lives of all American workers, not just the top 10%.**

Adriano also supports immigration reform and a path to citizenship, stronger national gun legislation, and criminal justice reform that can reduce recidivism. In addition, he will work to develop increased education options and opportunities for technology growth with expanded multiple dual language efforts. He will also work to develop affordable higher education paths that would reduce college loan debt.

Website: <http://www.espaillat2016.com>

I, Tom Wallace Lyons, tender my humble apology to Laurence Tribe for the misspelling of his first name. I spelled it as L(AW)rence when the spelling is actually L(au)rence. The misspelling occurred in my DAPAC newsletter review of Laurence Tribe's GOD SAVE THIS HONORABLE COURT.