

DAPAC DISPATCH: 2010 October Update

Dapac.org A Proven Record of Electing Progressive Democrats October 2010

DAPAC Endorses Two New Progressives for Congress!

DAPAC is proud to announce that we have endorsed two new progressive Democrats for Congress. They are Dr. David Gill (IL-15) and Rick Waugh (VA-7).

Dr. David Gill is an emergency room physician. If ever our nation needed a specialist trained in dealing with emergencies, and bringing a dying economy back to life, now is the time! Dr. Gill is committed to improve efficiency, lower cost and expand access. His website is www.gill2010.com.



Dr. Gill and supporters in Illinois

Rick Waugh (VA-7) has pledged to end outsourcing of jobs by ending tax breaks for major corporations that ship jobs overseas. His website is www.rickwaugh.com

DAPAC CORE VALUES

All of our candidates support:

- Cutting Middle Class Taxes to Create Jobs
- Protecting Social Security and Medicare
- Ending Trillion Dollar Wars
- Medicare for All
- A Woman's Right to Choose
- LGBT Civil Rights
- Working family and Union Rights
- Ending the Death Penalty
- Honest, Fair Markets
- Environmental Protection
- Ending Tax Breaks for Billionaires
- Ending Corporate Corruption of Congress

Refuting the Myth of Out of Control Government Spending

The radical right wing propaganda machine would like you to believe that we suffer from "out of control government spending."

Certainly our nation's spending on foreign wars is greater than any other nation on earth.

But total government spending on domestic programs has never been lower.

In fact, according to a recent article in the New York Times by Nobel prize winning economist, Paul Krugman:

Since January 2009 total government workers have fallen by more than 350,000.. with most of this decline being teachers.

Given that the stimulus program was supposed to save the jobs of a million teachers and health care workers, how can this be possible?

The answer is that the economic downturn caused by the failed Trickle Down policies of the Bush Administration was so great and caused such havoc in plunging tax revenue for State and local governments that federal stimulus funds were simply not enough to preserve these essential government jobs.

To be fair, without the stimulus funds, it is likely that more than one million teachers would have lost their jobs. But these stimulus funds will expire at the end of this current school year. (Cont on Page 3)

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Like all of our progressive candidates, we at DAPAC are in it for the long term good of our nation. Please help us get all of our Progressive Democrats elected to Congress

Taking Back Our Democracy with the 2010 Fair Election Now Act

Our mission at DAPAC, from the beginning, has been to elect progressive Democrats to Congress in swing districts. Over the past 10 years, we have assisted over 100 progressive Congressional candidates and had more than our share (about 17) actually win despite long odds against them.

One major problem for progressive Democratic candidates has always been funding. Unlike corporate-controlled Democrats and Republicans, our DAPAC – endorsed progressive Democrats are typically outspent by more than 10 to 1 by corporate controlled opponents.

This huge funding difference makes it difficult for progressives to win elections – or even make it past the primary when facing a corporate Democrat. Our elections, our Democracy and our government are being sold to the highest bidder.

This is why our Congress often does the bidding of their corporate masters rather than acting in the best interest of the American people.

The Fair Elections Now Act (S. 752 and H.R. 1826) would go a long way towards solving this problem. It is a voluntary program which would provide \$900,000 in federal funds for any candidate for the US House who raised \$50,000 from at least 1,500 small donors in their home State (with a maximum donation of \$100 each).

The revenue for the Fair Elections Now Act would come from either a small fee on large government contractors or a ten percent fee on revenues generated through the auction of unused broadcast spectrum.

We are planning to greatly expand DAPAC's list of endorsed candidates for the next election cycle.

If the Fair Elections Now Act passed, we could elect 40 or more progressive Democrats to Congress in the next cycle.

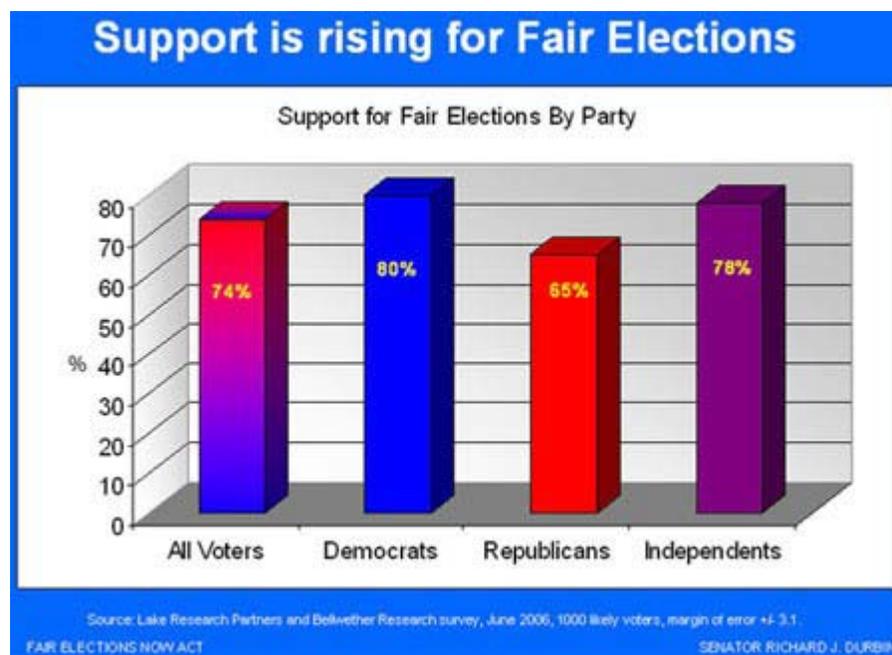
In fact, more progressives would be likely to run if they felt they actually had a fairer chance of winning. The Fair Elections Act is the best way to overcome the Supreme Court decision which allows unlimited corporate spending to buy elections.

We have therefore added Fair Elections Now to our Progressive Pledge to America. (see page 4 of this newsletter for more information on our Progressive Pledge to America).

Amid the dark times our nation is going through, there is hope for a better progressive future for our Democracy if we can get the Fair Elections Now Act passed.

Thank you for your continued support of DAPAC and our progressive candidates as we head into these final two weeks of this crucial election!

This election is no longer about the future of our economy ... it is about the future of our Democracy!



Refuting the Myth of Out of Control Government Spending (cont from pg 1)

We agree with Paul Krugman that the only way to restore our economy is with a real stimulus package which will allow us to hire teachers, repair our schools and rebuild our nation's crumbling infrastructure. If radical Tea Baggers take over Congress, our nation will be plunged into the next Great Depression.

This is yet another reason it is so essential to elect progressive Democrats. And that is why, we at DAPAC are doing everything we can to help elect them. We appreciate your support. Together we can and will turn our economy around. We did it once before. We can and will do it again.



Do Americans Have a Right to a Good Paying Job?

After corporate greed and corruption brought our country to its knees in 1929, unemployment skyrocketed and millions lost their jobs and their homes. One of FDR's most important proposals during the Great Depression was that every American had a right to a good paying job and deserved a chance to save their home and provide for their family.



While FDR was vilified by the Right for his Job Creation programs, most modern historians now agree that FDR actually saved our Democracy. Without his Jobs Programs, our nation would have fallen to either fascism on the right or communism on the left.

Today, after another round of corporate greed and corruption, real unemployment is once again rising above 20% and millions of Americans are now losing their homes and life savings. We are once again facing a crucial question: Do Americans have a right to a good paying job?

The truth is that unemployed people cannot shop at businesses and cannot pay their taxes or make their mortgage payments. Full employment benefits everyone while mass unemployment benefits no one. We have therefore added the Right to a Good Job to our Progressive Pledge to America (see page 4 of this Newsletter).

About our Founder, Tom Cramer

Tom Cramer has been working for nearly 20 years for a better more progressive America. Tom's first political involvement was in the National People's Campaign opposing the Gingrich Contract on America. Tom then ran for Congress as the Democratic nominee against Henry Hyde in 1998.

Recognizing the need for more support for progressive Congressional Candidates, Tom started DAPAC in 2000.

"By supporting progressive Democrats, we can fight back against corporate corruption, reform our political system, restore our economy and rebuild our nation."

Here in America, we are waging a great and successful war. It is not alone a war against want and destitution and economic demoralization. It is more than that; it is a war for the survival of democracy.

FDR

June 1936



DAPAC announces A Progressive Pledge to America!

Recently, the Radical Right announced a new Contract on America. If elected, they pledge to destroy millions of jobs, toss millions of Americans out of their homes, eliminate Social Security and Medicare and gut funding for our public schools and universities. In short, they want to take us back to the days of Herbert Hoover. We at DAPAC have a different vision for America. We have therefore decided to issue our own Progressive Pledge to America which sets forth a specific agenda we can achieve by electing progressive Democrats.

Our Founding Fathers created a government based upon the conviction that all of us are endowed with unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. While our Founding Fathers rebelled against an unjust King, we face an even greater unjust King today... namely the unbridled and shortsighted greed of monopolies and multinational corporations - which control nearly every aspect of our government, our media, our elections, and our justice system. This new King is a threat to our Liberty and to our Democracy. In the face of uncontrolled greed, millions have lost their jobs, their homes, their health care and their life savings. For millions of Americans, there is no longer a fair ability to maintain life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We offer the following Ten Key Rights as a new vision for a more Democratic America. We pledge to work towards an America which offers real Liberty and Justice for All. We assert that the unalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness also includes the following ten rights:

1. **Good Jobs for All** FDR said that there could be no economic freedom unless every person had a good paying job with which they could support themselves and their family.
2. **Medicare for All** Corporatizing and profitizing our health care system was supposed to lower costs. Instead it led to skyrocketing costs and dramatic reductions in access. The only way to control cost and increase access for all is by expanding our current highly efficient Medicare system to all Americans.
3. **Clean Environment for All** The right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness cannot occur in a polluted environment. Everything is connected to everything else.
4. **Education for All** Education is not only the foundation for the future of our economy, it is the foundation for the future of our Democracy.
5. **Homes for All** Tossing millions of families out of their homes only to see those homes remain vacant hurts all of us. It can no longer be tolerated in a civilized society.
6. **Civil Rights for All** Civil rights include a woman's right to choose whether to have a child, a workers right to join a union as well as LGBT equal rights.
7. **Peace for All** Foreign wars have made our nation less secure rather than more secure. We must end trillion dollar foreign wars in order to create jobs here in America.
8. **Social Security for All** We must protect every penny of Social Security. It is not an entitlement. It is a right earned through a lifetime of work.
9. **Honesty in Government.** We cannot solve our nation's problems unless our government is honest with the American people about the extent of our problems. We pledge to tell the truth about everything from the real unemployment rate to the real cost of foreign wars.
10. **Fair Elections for All** None of the above rights can be secure as long as American elections can be sold to the highest bidder. Corporations are not people.

We seek your input and advice as a supporter of DAPAC as to what additional elements should be included in a Progressive Pledge to America which reflect your values, principles and priorities. We also encourage you to share this Progressive Pledge to America with other progressive individuals and organizations. Together we can restore our nation to a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

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