

DAPAC DISPATCH

Democratic Advancement Political Action Committee

Grassroots Activism for Progressive Democrats
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Join the Fight to Elect Progressive Democrats!

We Can Produce Jobs NOW in the United States & Balance the Budget

Basically two methods exist to produce jobs, either by government spending or private sector spending. However, government spending is currently in the process of being cut. Also, private sector money is staying on the sidelines due to a collapse of consumer demand. Demand is down because many consumers are deep in debt. This economic decline also reduces tax revenue and puts our government budget into further decline.

So how do we produce jobs? I spent time researching this and found many ways. The best are listed below, and can be broadly placed into three categories of action: increase public spending, reduce private debt, and address trade imbalance.

Increase Public Spending

The most obvious approach is through increased public spending. We can:

Create a national infrastructure bank - this will allow state and local governments to finance needed public works projects and hire people to work on those projects.

Support public works projects - direct subsidies for the same public works projects would also cause state and local governments to hire more people to work on those projects.

Enact another, larger round of stimulus - this will put money in consumers' pockets, which they will spend, creating business opportunity. Businesses will then hire people to take advantage of the increased opportunity.

Expand the earned income tax credit -

this will again put money in consumers' pockets, resulting in businesses hiring people so they can sell more.

Subsidize teachers, fire fighters and police - recently, every state and every local government has had to cut back on these essential service because of the economy. We can reverse this, while increasing employment, and improving education and safety at the same time.

Reduce Private Debt

The biggest drag on consumer spending right now is large debts owed by consumers. We can:

Inflate the dollar - the Federal Reserve could announce a policy of inflation targeting, spending whatever it takes to get inflation back to a more reasonable level. This will reduce consumer debt in relation to income. Consumers will find it easier to repay their debts, and the leftover money will create opportunity for businesses to expand and create jobs.

Facilitate write downs of underwater mortgages - we can require banks to adjust their outstanding loans to reflect the loss in value of most homes. This will also reduce consumer debt and thereby create jobs because people will have more money to spend.

Address Trade Imbalance

We have seen many manufacturing jobs move overseas. We can:

Raise tariffs - our currently low tariffs encourage businesses to move production overseas. We can reduce this effect and move

some jobs back to the US.

Raise the gasoline tax to reduce oil imports - much of our imports are used to fuel our transportation system, which is overly reliant on gasoline. With higher taxes, there will be a greater incentive to shift to other renewable domestic energy sources.

Subsidize renewable energy development - again, a greater incentive to use renewable domestic energy will reduce our energy imports.

Encourage China to float their currency - China has been manipulating their currency, artificially increasing their exports to us, while at the same time decreasing their imports from us. We can use our leverage as the largest consumer economy in the world to encourage them to float their currency, and increase our opportunities to sell to them.

Any one of these proposals will help lift us out of the recession. If we do all of them, the economic recovery will happen much faster and bring relief to many. Also, an improved economy will increase tax revenues which will further help to balance the federal budget.

Endorsed Candidates!

DAPAC is proud to support and endorse Ed Potosnak from New Jersey and Henry Yanez of Michigan for the House of Representatives. They both support DAPAC's core progressive values and are running dynamic campaigns in their districts.

Henry Yanez, Michigan 10

Henry Yanez is a working firefighter, paramedic and a father of two. Working with the community in their time of need, he can see first hand how issues like jobs, the economy, and health care effect the middle class. Also, as a son of aging parents, he understands the importance of Medicare and Social Security. He has a true understanding

on how all these budget cuts hurt the essential services that people and businesses rely on. He is dedicated to creating good job, a strong economy, and protecting and providing for our families' safe and secure future. Henry is the current chair of the 10th District Democrats.

Ed Potosnak, New Jersey 07

Ed Potosnak is a high school science teacher who worked his way through Rutgers University. In 2007 he was selected as part of the Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship that took him to Washington, DC, to work with members of Congress on education policies. There he saw the disconnect from career politicians and the plight of average American. This experience inspired him to run for Congress to better represent the people. He is dedicated to protecting Medicare, Social Security, health care, improving America's competitiveness, and protecting consumers regulating big banks and Wall Street.

We are currently screening candidates and reviewing district statistics so additional candidates can be endorsed. Please donate today to support our efforts to bring you more information on progressive candidates. You can donate online at dapac.org or by mail with the enclosed envelope. Thank you!

Investing in Green Jobs Can

Revive the Economy

"A nation that destroys its soil destroys itself. The forests are the lungs of our lands, purifying our air and giving fresh strength to our people."

-Franklin D. Roosevelt

During the 1920's, one of FDR's main issues was stopping the destruction of our national resources. His own Hyde Park estate had been destroyed by the abuse of his forebearers, before he took over management of it in the 1910's. To restore the land, he planted 20,000 to 50,000 trees a year. By 1945 he had planted more than 400,000 trees in all. In his last year

as governor of New York, he had hired 10,000 unemployed people to work on reforestation. This effort was scorned by Hoover and the Republicans.

During the first hundred days of his administration, after the banking crisis was under control, Roosevelt sent a request to Congress to create the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The basis of the Civilian Conservation Corps was to employ young men and to start a natural resource conservation program. It was established after vicious attacks by both the Republicans and Democrats. Over its nine year existence it employed 2.5 million men. Because of this experience, many men developed a respect for nature and conservation, along with job training and further education.

The hard economic times now present are very similar to what Roosevelt experienced as president. The unemployment rate is unacceptably high, with people out of work for many months and even years. Now, we also have new college graduates who are unable to find jobs, about 44%. With the increase in tuition costs and the prospect of jobs after graduation bleak, it creates even more anxiety in the population.

By following in Roosevelt's footsteps, the government should create conservation jobs. We can create solar and wind stations to create energy, or planning groups for reforestation or land restoration. These programs will give people hope in the economy, along with creating a more sustainable environment.

The government needs to act now, by creating conservation and other green jobs so we can put people back to work. This can be started by creating a tax for carbon based fuels, and directing that money to produce jobs in conservation and renewable energy. By making the focus on job creation it can put more pressure on conservatives in Congress to vote for it. Perhaps we could call it the "jobs creation investment".

Herman Cain's Tax Plan Doubles

Taxes On Regular People

Herman Cain's tax plan, which he calls "9-9-9", sounds simple. But it's too simple to address the problems our country faces in this economic crisis.

First of all, it ignores state and local taxes. These taxes comprise about half the taxes most people pay.

Herman Cain says his plan will broaden the tax rate. That is double talk. It will tax regular people more. 50% of Americans have been paying 7.65% or less in federal payroll taxes, and 0% sales tax. Under Herman Cain's plan, those people who now pay little or no federal income taxes will instead pay 18%.

Under Herman Cain's plan, the average American's federal taxes double. Herman Cain is a mathematician by education, but you have to wonder about what he really understands. My conclusion is he thinks Americans are lazy and stupid and should be paying more.

REDISTRICTING CREATES 7 NEW POTENTIAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

ILLINOIS

Illinois' redistricting plan has redrawn three new districts without incumbents. We must ensure these Democrats are progressive Democrats.

8 th: NW Chicago Suburbs: This district includes the edge city of Schaumburg, and has a large South Asian population. In 2008, Obama received 62% of the vote in the area now covered by the district.

10 th: North Chicago Suburbs: This district covers the Lake Michigan shore from just north of Chicago north to the Wisconsin border. It contains the city of Waukegan. In 2008 Obama received 62% of the vote in these areas.

11 th: West/Southwest Chicago Suburbs : This district covers far west and southwest suburbs of Chicago, including the edge cities of Aurora and Naperville. There is a large Hispanic population in the district. In 2008, Obama received 61% of the vote in the area now covered by this district.

CALIFORNIA:

California's new plan, was drawn by an initiative-directed, bi-partisan committee consisting of 5 Democrats, 5 Republicans, and 5 members drawn from other political groups. The new districts' boundaries have resulted in more Democratic leanings in districts 3, 26, 41 and 52, and can expect to result in the ouster of Republicans Gallegly, Dreier, Miller and Bilbray. Republicans are contesting the results but a final vote by the committee will be taken on August 16th. Defined maps and descriptions will be available soon after this vote.

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