

A NEW DIRECTION PROGRESS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

“This is one of the most productive Congresses in history.”

-Norman Ornstein, Congressional Scholar at American Enterprise Institute, *Financial Times* 3/19/10

The New Direction Congress is on your side—shifting control from insurance companies to Americans, and from Wall Street to Main Street—creating jobs and a strong new foundation for the American economy.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND CREATING JOBS

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT, enacted in the first month of President Obama’s term, to jumpstart our economy, create and save 3.5 million jobs, give 95% of American workers a tax cut, and begin to rebuild America’s road, rail, and water infrastructure, with unprecedented accountability. *(Signed into Law)*

STUDENT AID & FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT, making the largest investment in college aid in history – increasing Pell Grants, making college loans more affordable, and strengthening community colleges – while reducing the federal deficit by ending wasteful student loan subsidies to banks. *(On the President’s desk)*

HIRE ACT, creating 300,000 jobs with tax incentives for businesses that hire unemployed Americans, unleashing billions of dollars to rebuild highways and other infrastructure, and strengthening small business investment with accelerated tax write-offs. *(Signed into Law)*

CASH FOR CLUNKERS, jump-starting the U.S. auto industry, providing consumers with up to \$4,500 to trade in an old vehicle for one with higher fuel efficiency—spurring the sale of 700,000 vehicles. *(Signed into Law)*

WORKER, HOMEOWNERSHIP & BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ACT, boosting the economy with emergency aid for the unemployed, the 1st-time homebuyer tax credit, and tax relief for struggling businesses. *(Signed into Law)*

JOBS AGENDA, of recently-passed measures that target investments and tax incentives to boost small businesses and entrepreneurs; to rebuild highways, transit and other infrastructure (including Build America Bonds); to hire and retain teachers, police, and firefighters; to add approximately 300,000 summer job opportunities for young people. All are fully paid for—in part by redirecting TARP funds from Wall Street to Main Street. *(Passed by House)*

AFFORDABLE QUALITY HEALTH CARE

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM, landmark legislation putting American families and small business owners—not the insurance companies—in control of their own health care; lowering costs for middle class and small business; strengthening Medicare and lowering prescription drug costs; creating up to 4 million jobs; and reducing deficit by largest amount in almost two decades. *(Signed into law)*

HEALTH CARE FOR 11 MILLION CHILDREN, providing cost-effective health coverage for 4 million more children and preserve coverage for 7 million children already enrolled. *(Signed into Law)*

FDA REGULATION OF TOBACCO, granting the Food and Drug Administration authority to regulate advertising, marketing, and manufacturing of tobacco products, the #1 cause of preventable U.S. death. *(Signed into Law)*

FOOD SAFETY, to fundamentally change the way we protect our food supply; close gaps exposed by recent food-borne illness outbreaks; give the FDA new authorities. *(Passed by House)*

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS AND CONSERVATION

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY & SECURITY ACT, historic legislation to create millions of American jobs; reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil; cut carbon pollution causing climate change; keep costs low for Americans. *(Passed by House)*

OMNIBUS PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT, the most significant conservation bill in 15 years, strengthening tourism and rural economies with more than 2 million new acres of wilderness and parks. *(Signed into Law)*

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

BUDGET BLUEPRINT, creating jobs with investments in health care, clean energy and education; cutting taxes for most Americans by \$1.5 trillion; cutting Bush deficit by more than half by 2013. *(Action Completed)*

STATUTORY PAY-AS-YOU-GO, restoring 1990s law that turned record deficits into surpluses; Congress must offset new policies that reduce revenues or expand entitlements. *(Signed into Law)*

PROTECTING CONSUMERS AND TAXPAYERS

WALL STREET REFORM & CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, historic reforms to end taxpayer-funded bailouts and 'too big to fail' financial institutions, and protect consumers from predatory lending. *(Passed by House)*

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS, providing tough new protections for consumers—including banning unfair rate increases, abusive fees, and penalties—and strengthening enforcement. *(Signed into Law)*

FRAUD ENFORCEMENT & RECOVERY ACT, providing tools to prosecute mortgage scams and corporate fraud that contributed to financial crisis; creating an outside commission to examine its causes. *(Signed into Law)*

DEFENSE PROCUREMENT REFORM, cracking down on Pentagon waste and cost overruns. *(Signed into Law)*

LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT, restoring rights of women and other workers to challenge unfair pay—to help close the wage gap where women earn 78 cents for every \$1 a man earns in America. *(Signed into Law)*

NATIONAL SECURITY/TROOPS AND VETERANS

VETERANS HEALTH CARE BUDGET REFORM & TRANSPARENCY ACT, ensuring reliable and timely veterans health care funding by authorizing Congress to approve VA medical care a year in advance. *(Signed into Law)*

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION to provide 3.4% pay raise for troops, strengthen military readiness, expand support for military families, and focus strategy on Afghanistan and Pakistan and Iraq redeployment. *(Signed into Law)*

For a more detailed list of accomplishments, please visit www.speaker.gov/accomplishments.

Office of Speaker Nancy Pelosi – March 25, 2010