

Six-Month Progress Report: Republican Agenda Thin on Jobs, Abandons American Priorities and Values

When Republicans took the House majority, they pledged to focus on creating jobs and growing the economy. But after six months, they still haven't put forward a comprehensive jobs agenda. While Democrats are focused on the Make It In America agenda, a plan to support job creation and boost working families, Republicans are pursuing a partisan agenda that has the wrong priorities.

<u>REPUBLICAN REPORT CARD</u>		
June 2011		
<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
ON JOB CREATION	<i>F</i>	While Republicans say they are “laser-focused” on jobs, their actions don't live up to their rhetoric. Over the past six months, they have brought bills to the Floor that are more focused on their partisan agenda than actually helping create jobs .
ON FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY	<i>F</i>	Republicans have not offered a serious plan to address the deficit that puts everything on the table. They passed a Rules package that paves the way to add \$5 trillion to the deficit and their budget gives tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans while putting more of a burden on the backs of seniors and the middle class.
ON IMPROVING HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICANS	<i>F</i>	Republicans voted to repeal patients' rights and put insurance companies back in control of health care. Their budget ends Medicare and raises health care costs for each senior by more than \$6,000 per year. They voted to reopen the prescription drug donut hole, costing an estimated 4 million seniors who fall into the coverage gap up to \$44 billion by 2020, including \$2.2 billion in 2012 alone. They also voted to increase the cost of wellness visits, forcing at least one million seniors and people with disabilities to pay over \$110 million more in 2012. And their vote to cut Medicaid by almost \$800 billion jeopardizes access to and quality of health care for seniors in nursing homes, the disabled, and children
ON ENERGY	<i>F</i>	Republicans have voted multiple times to preserve taxpayer handouts to oil companies making near-record profits and to cut funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission—the agency that oversees oil markets to protect consumers from high gas prices due to speculation. They insist on a “drill-only” plan, rather than focusing on a balanced approach, including responsible drilling and alternative sources of energy, to help end our dependence on foreign oil.
ON EDUCATION	<i>F</i>	Republicans voted to dramatically cut education and job training programs in their budget. They have not made a serious effort to work with Democrats to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and instead put forward a bill that cuts 40 education programs without consideration of the consequences. And they have voted to slash funding for children's programs, eliminating more than a hundred thousand children from Head Start, denying access to literacy programs, and cutting nutrition programs when families need them the most.
ON HOMELAND SECURITY	<i>F</i>	Republicans voted to weaken homeland security by cutting port security, transportation security and counterterrorism programs, as well funding for first responders.