

REPUBLICANS PROMISE RETURN TO FAILED BUSH POLICIES

“We need to go back to the exact same agenda.”

– Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX), Chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, 7/18/10)

“[President] Bush’s stock has gone up a lot since he left office.... I think a lot of people are looking back with more fondness on President Bush’s administration, and I think history will treat him well.”

- Sen. John Cornyn, Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, 7/18/2010

This past weekend, Republicans defended the policies of President Bush and stated that they would return to that exact agenda - an agenda that drove our economy into a recession, exploded the deficit, gave free rein to Big Oil, and gave control of health care to big insurance companies. Below are a few examples of how Republicans would govern if given the opportunity.

Q. What would Republicans do to consumers who suffered from abuses on Wall Street that resulted in the financial crisis?

A. Republicans would repeal Wall Street Reform legislation going back to the policies that allowed big banks free rein without regard to the consequences for consumers, just like under President Bush.

On Wall Street Reform: “I think it ought to be repealed.” – Minority Leader John Boehner (R-OH), 7/15/2010

Q. What would Republicans do to hold big oil companies accountable?

A. Republicans would apologize to special interests and fail to hold them accountable for gross negligence, just like under President Bush.

To the CEO of BP: “...I am ashamed of what happened at the White House yesterday. I think it is a tragedy of the first proportion that a private corporation can be subjected to what I would characterize as a shakedown -- in this case a \$20 billion shakedown...I apologize.” – Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX), 6/17/2010

Q. What would Republicans do to address the deficit?

A. Significantly increase it by extending tax cuts for the wealthy, just like under President Bush.

On extending President Bush’s tax cuts, despite the cost: “You should never have to offset cost of a deliberate decision to reduce tax rates on Americans.” – Sen. Jon Kyl (R-AZ), 7/11/2010

Q. What would Republicans do to Americans' health care?

A. Republicans would repeal the health reform law that has put middle-class Americans in charge of their health care rather than insurance companies, just like under President Bush.

On health reform law: “...repealing this bill has to be our No. 1 priority.” – Minority Leader John Boehner (R-OH), 4/12/2010