



Obama Biden Watch



Volume 2
Issue 3

April 2010

www.obamabidenwatch.org
www.citizensunited.org

The Impact Of The House Health Care Vote

Because the Democrat leadership in the United States has chosen to ignore our dire economic situation for more than a year, Republicans could easily pick up as many as 60 U.S. House seats in the November 2010 midterm elections and thus re-capture the majority and then some. It could be argued that 40 of those seats could be gained simply because the Democrat Member voted in favor of the irresponsible, unaffordable, and unpopular Obama-Pelosi-Reid health care bill. Incidentally, Republicans need to pickup exactly 40 seats to make John Boehner the next Speaker of the House.

On March 21, 2010, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the trillion dollar-plus Obama-Pelosi-Reid government takeover of health care by a vote of 219-212. President Obama, Speaker Pelosi, and 218 other House Democrats made the awful decision to ram this bill through Congress and make it the law of the land despite the fact that an average of polls indicate that 51 percent of the American people oppose the unaffordable plan.

In an act of total arrogance, Obama, Pelosi, and Reid ignored all the polls that say the American people want the White House and the Con-

gress to focus on jobs and the economy first and foremost. Instead, these liberal leaders wasted more than a year trying to pass their irresponsible health care bill, while our nation's unemployment rate hovered above 9 percent for a staggering 11 straight months. This hasn't happened since 1982-1983, when unemployment stayed above 9 percent for 19 straight months. To make matters worse, instead of legislating in a fiscally prudent manner as promised, the bill they rammed through will cost at least a trillion dollars - money that we don't have - and only add to our unsustainable \$12.8 trillion national debt and our trillion dollar federal budget deficit. It's no wonder that only 19 percent of the American people approve of



the job Congress is doing, as opposed to the 69 percent who disapprove!

The following is a list of 40 House Democrats who voted in favor of the government takeover of health care despite representing conservative leaning swing districts across America. Next to the Members' name is how the district voted at the presidential level in 2004 and 2008. Don't be surprised if many of these members are "former" Members of Congress at this time next year!

Continued on the next page...

Bean (IL 8) Bush+12, Obama+13
Bishop (NY 1) Bush+0, Obama+4
Bocchieri (OH 16) Bush +8, McCain+2
Boswell (IA 3) Bush+0, Obama+10
Boyd (FL 2) Bush+8, McCain+9
Carney (PA 10) Bush+20, McCain+9
Connolly (VA 11) Bush+1, Obama+15
Dahlkemper (PA 3) Bush+6, McCain+0
Donnelly (IN 2) Bush+13, Obama+9
Driehaus (OH 1) Bush+2, Obama+11
Etheridge (NC 2) Bush+8, Obama+6
Foster (IL 14) Bush+11, Obama+11
Giffords (AZ 8) Bush+7, McCain +6
Grayson (FL 8) Bush+10, Obama+5
Hall (NY 19) Bush+9, Obama+3
Halvorson (IL 11) Bush+8, Obama+8
Hill (IN 9) Bush +19, McCain +1
Kagen (WI 8) Bush +11, Obama+9
Kilroy (OH 15) Bush+0, Obama+9
Kirkpatrick (AZ 1) Bush+8, McCain +10
Klein (FL 22) Kerry+5, Obama+4
Kosmas (FL 24) Bush+10, McCain +2
Maffei (NY 25) Kerry+2, Obama+13
Markey (CO 4) Bush +17, McCain +1
McNerney (CA 11) Bush +9, Obama+10
Mitchell (AZ 5) Bush+9, McCain +4
Mollohan (WV 1) Bush+16, McCain+15
Murphy (NY-20) Bush+8, Obama+3
Owens (NY 23) Bush+4, Obama+5
Perriello (VA 5) Bush+13, McCain+3
Peters (MI 9) Bush+2, Obama+13
Pomeroy (ND AL) Bush +28, McCain+8
Rahall (WV 3) Bush+7, McCain+14
Rodriguez (TX 23) Bush+14, Obama+3
Salazar (CO 3) Bush+11, McCain+2
Schauer (MI 7) Bush +9, Obama+5
Shea-Porter (NH 1) Bush+3, Obama+6
Spratt (SC 5) Bush+15, McCain+7
Titus (NV 3) Bush+1, Obama+12
Walz (MN 1) Bush+4, Obama+4

If all or most of these Members lose in November 2010, it won't take a political genius to understand why. You can't ignore the will of the people. The American people did not and do not support this health care bill. By ignoring the people they represent in order to placate radical special interest groups, the Democrats may have sealed their fate. It's the economy, stupid!

In this Issue

Impact of the House
HealthCare Vote
Pg. 1

Freakin' Out
Pg. 3

Is Amnesty Next?
Pg. 5

Citizens United
Productions Presents
Pg. 7

Final Thoughts
Pg. 8

Published By
Citizens United

Editor
David N. Bossie

Managing Editor
J.T. Mastranadi

Contributor
Robert Vandervoort
Chris Berg
Will Holley

Publication Design
Kirk Risinger
Kate Brewster

Copyright © 2010 by Citizens
United

Liberals “Freakin’ Out” Because of Citizens United

“In my expert opinion, they're freakin' out.”
- Former FEC Chairman Brad Smith

President Barack Obama, David Axelrod and liberals in the House, Senate and state legislatures are “freakin’ out” in response to the Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v FEC*.

Former FEC Chairman Brad Smith was asked to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee regarding the *Citizens United* decision and potential legislative responses. Chairman Smith could barely introduce himself before Senator Patrick Leahy launched into a mean-spirited line of attack. On the subject of the Vermont legislature, a state which had traditionally allowed corporations to engage in political speech, having introduced legislation to curtail speech, Chairman Smith offered his expert opinion that they were “freakin’ out.”

President Obama went so far as to criticize the *Citizens United* decision in his State of the Union address. He used his bully pulpit in an unprecedented fashion to falsely accuse the Supreme Court Justices who were present of “revers[ing] a century of law to open the floodgates for special interests -- including foreign companies -- to spend without limit in our elections”. In the days and weeks that followed, Obama’s supporters and White House staff continued to verbally

berate the Supreme Court Justices who stood up for the Freedom of Speech.

Liberals in both Congress and the White House are responding to the *Citizens United* decision by calling for additional registration on free speech and making it burdensome and difficult to exercise one’s rights.

Senator Charles Schumer and Congressman Chris Van Hollen have led the fight to pass new restrictions on speech in light of *Citizens United*. Schumer and Van Hollen want to chill free speech by imposing overly burdensome reporting and disclosure provisions.

Van Hollen’s fight against corporate political speech rings a bit hollow—after all, while in the Maryland state legislature he routinely accepted corporate contributions.

While Schumer and Van Hollen have yet to introduce a bill, they have released a legislative framework. Under the Schumer and Van Hollen framework, corporate political advertisements would need to include the corporate CEO appearing on camera endorsing the message. Non-profit organizations may have to disclose their top donors on television, as well as include a videotaped message from the top donor in the advertisement.

In direct contradiction of *Citizens United*, which allowed the spending of general treasury funds, Schumer and Van Hollen have proposed that new “political broadcast spending” funds be established with increased burdensome disclosure requirements.

Continued on the next page...



The Supreme Court has made clear that you shouldn't have to employ an army of lawyers and accountants in order to engage in political speech. If the Schumer and Van Hollen framework becomes law one will have to in order to comply with the burdensome and complex requirements.

These and similar efforts to limit speech are nothing more than an effort to protect incumbent politicians.

If politicians can limit corporate political speech, what's to stop them from limiting your right to free speech? After all, the Department of Justice has already argued that the First Amendment poses no obstacle to banning books.

This assault on the exercise of the Freedom of Speech is not only happening on Capitol Hill, it's happening in state legislatures as well.

- In Alaska the State Senate has passed new legislation to require disclaimers on television and print advertisements.
- Iowa will now require corporate shareholder approval, expanded registration requirements, and independent expenditures must be reported within 48 hours of the time the cost is incurred.
- The Attorney General of Arizona, as well as state legislators, are fighting to increase state disclaimer and disclosure provisions.

The Freedom of Speech that the Supreme Court reinforced in *Citizens United* will again be under assault this summer as the Senate holds hearings to confirm a new Supreme Court Justice.

Justice John Paul Stevens, widely considered the most liberal member of the Court, is stepping down at the end of the current Court term. He was the most vocal dissenter in the *Citizens United* decision, and how his replacement views the *Citizens United* decision will be of paramount importance to the liberals, both in the White House and on Capitol Hill.

Liberals will be demanding that any nominee denounce the Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*. It will be the new judicial litmus test. White House Senior Advisor David Axelrod continues to attack the First Amendment rights protected in *Citizens United*, and makes clear that any nominee must as well:

"[Obama] understands that the justice he appoints will be a pivotal voice on this court on issues like, for example, the one we just saw, *Citizens United*, where the court ruled that corporations have the same first amendment rights as individuals and they basically sanctioned a corporate takeover of our elections."

In the February edition of the Obama Biden Watch we highlighted the three most likely Obama picks to replace a vacancy on the Supreme Court. They are Judge Merrick Garland of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Judge Diane Wood of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and Solicitor General Elena Kagan.

Sadly it's clear that President Obama will not select a nominee who will protect the Freedom of Speech as the Court did in *Citizens United*. We will keep you posted as the process moves forward.



Brad Smith, Former Chairman of Center For Competitive Politics

Is Amnesty Next?

With passage of Obamacare's assault on our health care system and economy in mid-March, attention now turns to the rest of the Obama agenda for transforming America. At the top of Obama's list of priorities and a campaign promise: to grant amnesty for millions of illegal aliens.

The amnesty the Obama-Biden administration is pushing would pardon millions of illegals and do virtually nothing to protect our borders. The last time a major amnesty for illegal aliens passed was in 1986; it failed and led to even more illegal immigration.

At a time when millions of Americans are already out of work and the economy in recession, the Obama-Biden administration is interested in bringing in still *more* people to compete for the scarce amount of jobs now available. Even when some of these jobs are "low-paying," it is incorrect to assume that Americans won't take them. In fact, it hurts poorer Americans by forcing them to compete with illegals.

It is certainly true that some jobs would be saved under a blanket amnesty: those of Democratic politicians. They see amnesty as a "job security" issue for themselves. It creates an easy way for them to secure more votes, and win elections.

The liberal elite in this country pushed for an amnesty in 2007. To nearly everyone's surprise, the Left was defeated as ordinary Americans rose up against it. The issue has not gone away, nor will it until conservative solutions on immigration are enacted. The Left, however, will keep pushing for a mass amnesty on illegal aliens, believing they have a narrow window of opportunity under the Obama administration.

Even before Democrats passed and enacted their health care legislation, Obama met with

dozens of amnesty advocate groups, for 75 minutes at the White House on March 11th this year. During this meeting, he reaffirmed his support for their goals.

He also met in March with Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) [or Sen. "Lindsey Grahamnesty," as some conservatives are now calling him] to discuss their draft amnesty legislation. These two senators declared that, "for the 11 million immigrants already in this country illegally, we would provide a tough but fair path forward." Their "fair path forward" means amnesty and U.S citizenship. Mr. Obama acknowledged, though, that passage "won't be easy." However, Obama is probably more confident in his ability to get unpopular legislation passed, now that his health care was rammed through Congress and imposed on the American people.

Obama made a campaign pledge to "fix" immigration. His supporters have not let him forget this. Tens of thousands of amnesty supporters rallied at the Washington Mall on Sunday, March 21st, 2010 – the very day the health care bill was passed. Obama addressed this crowd via video telling them, "I have pledged to be your partner as we work to fix our broken immigration system, and that's a commitment that I reaffirm today."

The Democratic Senate leadership, under Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and Majority Whip Sen. Richard Durbin (D-IL) both spoke before separate amnesty rallies, affirming their own support for amnesty on the weekend of April 10th. Reid told a gathering of 6,000 people, mostly immigrants, "We're going to have comprehensive immigration reform now." When the Left talks of "comprehensive immigration reform," it's their codeword for amnesty.

The same weekend, Sen. Durbin told an amnesty rally in

Continued on the next page...

Chicago that if four or five Republicans would join the Democrats in backing an amnesty, the U.S. Senate would approve it.

Sen. Reid, who is facing a tough reelection battle in Nevada this year, may be trying to rally Hispanic support by pushing for amnesty. However, aside from some Leftist activists, the data indicates Hispanic voters are *not* overwhelmingly in support of lax immigration policies and amnesty. In fact, it's just the opposite. A February 2010 Zogby poll reports that 56% of Hispanics, 58% of African-Americans, and 57% of Asians believe that immigration is "too high."

According to *The Hill* newspaper, vulnerable Democrats such as Sen. Ben Nelson (D-NE) and Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), are urging Reid not to make immigration amnesty an issue now. However, in the same issue, Reid's spokesman Regan Lachapelle stated that, "immigration reform is one of his top priorities. He remains committed to considering a comprehensive immigration reform bill on the Senate floor as soon as possible."

Citizens United has been rallying opposition to amnesty for several years now, particularly through its Citizens United for a Secure America project and its documentary film, *Border War*. The documentary explores the massive rise in illegal immigration and our porous borders.

According to the Washington D.C.-based think tank, Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), which advocates a reduction in immigration, the overall immigration numbers are at record highs. Legal immigration averaged 1,000,000 a year in the 1990's. In the 2000's, legal immigration has averaged at least 850,000 a year, and would have been much higher but for the backlog of applications being processed.

Factoring in the 700,000 illegal aliens that the liberal Urban Institute think tank estimates

enter and remain in the U.S. every year, total immigration rises to 1,500,000 annually. This is the equivalent of adding a major city to the country every single year.

According to FAIR, it is estimated that 60% of illegal aliens enter the country by crossing our porous borders. The remaining 40% entered legally, but stayed illegally by overstaying their visas.

While there has been some improvement on border security, FAIR states there has been "little, if any, improvement in dealing with the other 40% of overstayers."

The conservative Heritage Foundation estimates there are 10.8 million illegal aliens in this country. Conservative commentator Pat Buchanan, in his book *Death of the West*, wrote that there are "as many illegals as there are people in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut combined."

The Washington D.C.-based Center for Immigration Studies (CIS), which describes itself as a "pro-immigrant, low-immigration think tank," believes that the 10.8 million figure of illegal aliens as of 2009 is down from 12.5 million during the summer of 2007.

The Left may believe that a blanket amnesty will help keep them in power longer, but in addition to the political consequences, amnesty legislation will impact a variety of other big national issues: schools and education; prisons and crime (it is estimated that 27% of the inmates in our jails are illegal aliens); hospitals and health care costs; jobs and wages; welfare, assimilation and the culture.

According to a March 2010 Rasmussen poll, 68% of likely voters think that securing the border is more important than granting amnesty to aliens, but only 20% believe that Congress will take steps to secure the border within the next year.

A Polarizing President



President Obama's unpopular policy decisions have put his 2012 re-election in jeopardy. Decisions such as signing the Executive Order to

close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, supporting Nancy Pelosi's job-killing climate change bill, and wasting a year ramming the unaffordable government takeover of health care into law at a time when the struggling economy was the top concern of most Americans, is causing many voters to re-evaluate their opinion of Mr. Obama.

In 2008, Mr. Obama promised to bring Americans together by governing as a post-partisan moderate. Unfortunately, since taking office, President Obama has proven himself to be a liberal's dream come true. He has shown little interest in reaching out to Republicans to tackle our biggest problems in a bi-partisan fashion. In 15 short months, Mr. Obama has become a polarizing President.

Obama, Reid, and Pelosi's bidding of the far left was not what the American people hired them to do. They were hired to get things done in a pragmatic fashion. If the Democrats lose control of the House and Senate after the 2010 midterms elections, it will set the stage for a potential Obama loss in 2012.

The critical questions that will be answered over the next year are the following: Is President Obama capable of moving to the center ala Bill Clinton? Or is he simply an unabashed liberal who is more than willing to lose a second term for the sake of the liberal agenda?

According to Pollster.com, the averages of available polls show a polarized electorate in several critical issue areas, and serious problems for President Obama heading into the 2012 election cycle.

Barack Obama Overall Job Approval

48.0% approve, 48.2% disapprove

Barack Obama On Foreign Policy

46.5% approve, 44.5% disapprove

Barack Obama On The Economy

41.4% approve, 52.7% disapprove

Barack Obama On Health Care

43.3% approve, 52.5% disapprove

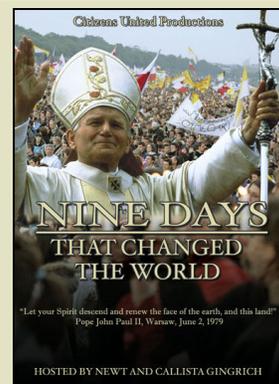
Citizens United Productions Presents

Nine Days That Changed The World: A new film presenting the Pope's trip to Poland in June 1979 as the cataclysmic event that changed a nation, ultimately contributing to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union. This film features the homilies and remarks of Pope John Paul II during his nine day pilgrimage and the places he went in the context of their special relevance to Polish history, including the first public Mass on the eve of Pentecost before millions in Warsaw's Victory Square.

Nine Days is a story of human liberation. It reveals how the Pope's visit helped the Poles find their courage and reclaim their freedom. ***Nine Days*** warns of the constant efforts of totalitarian governments to threaten religious liberty and minimize history.

In this feature documentary, Newt and Callista Gingrich explore the nine historic days of the Pope's 1979 pilgrimage and its impact on Poland, all of Eastern Europe, and the world at large.

Be on the lookout for Nine Days That Changed The World, now available at www.ninedaysthatchangedtheworld.com and www.citizensunited.org



A FINAL THOUGHT FROM
CITIZENS UNITED PRESIDENT
DAVID N. BOSSIE

Dear Friends,

In the three months that have passed since the Supreme Court's landmark First Amendment decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, there has been no shortage of hyperbole from liberal elitists and the mainstream media about the horrors that would befall the country. But in those three months, exactly one advertisement has been placed in one small-town Texas newspaper by one small business. Exxon-Mobil hasn't taken over the airwaves and Goldman Sachs hasn't run full page ads in the *New York Times*. The corporations that benefit from this decision are the non-profit corporations like Citizens United that are comprised of thousands of people like you and me who want to pool our limited resources in order to make sure our voices are heard.

But liberals aren't going to let a simple thing like logic and reason stand in their way of passing even more federal regulations on political speech. Senator Chuck Schumer and Congressman Chris Van Hollen, supported by President Obama are going to introduce a new piece of campaign finance legislation in the next week or so. And they think that it's a winning issue for them. But I know that the American people know an incumbent-protection plan when they see one, and that they will not stand for Democrats in Congress and in the White House telling us what we can say and when we can say it.

What's even more amazing than the fact that Washington liberals believe that Americans will stand for incumbent politicians restricting what can and cannot be said about them during an

election is the hypocrisy of these so-called "reformers." Despite the rhetoric coming out of the White House and Congress, the leaders of this charge have a long history of reaching their hands into the pockets of corporations themselves. When he was



running for the Illinois State Senate, Barack Obama took campaign donations from the corporate treasuries of bailout recipient Citigroup and pharmaceutical giant AstraZeneca. In fact, corporations and unions accounted for well over 50% of all of then-State Senator Obama's campaign contributions. But now that Democrats are running scared from the American people because of the tax-and-spend policies that have been rammed through over the last year, President Obama fully supports limiting political speech.

When this new legislation starts winding its way through Congress, you're going to hear the same old pack of lies being rebroadcast by the mainstream media day in and day out. But remember what the First Amendment to the Constitution says: "Congress shall make NO law" restricting the freedom of speech. The language and intent of the founding fathers could not be any clearer, and I promise you that Citizens United will go through this bill line by line to ensure that it does not infringe on our First Amendment rights. And if it does, we've already proved that we're more than willing to take the government head-on – and win.

Sincerely,
David N. Bossie