Contract With America of 2010

The Federal Government is established to give unity to the States, provide for the national defense and present a unified face to the international community. Its powers, granted under the Constitution, are specifically defined and designed to ensure domestic tranquility, preserve the benefits of the union, and enforce the limitations which prevent tyranny from robbing individual States of their right to self-rule.

In order to reaffirm the Constitutional rights and freedoms of the citizens of this nation to an efficient and non-intrusive government, we, the undersigned, vow to guide Congress with the philosophies outlined in the nine tenets listed below, if elected. Furthermore, should we, the undersigned, be in the majority of legislature, we will draft the bills included in this document and bring them to the floor of appropriate Houses of Congress for open debate, consideration, and vote.

The nine tenets on which this Contract are based are designed to focus the Federal Government on its limited and well-defined job for governing the nation as a whole and preserving it against foreign enemies, while returning the focus of domestic governance to its rightful holders: the States and the people.

Nine Tenets:

1. **Energy Security:** Increase energy security by decreasing regulation on domestic energy, including nuclear, coal, and oil. Oppose, or, if necessary, repeal Cap & Trade.

2. **New Energy:** Reduce interference in the market by the government in new technologies so that the best technologies can thrive, including regulation and subsidies.

3. **Economic recovery:** Decrease regulations on businesses, and lower taxes across the board, in order to stimulate the economy with real and meaningful growth.

4. **Healthcare:** Work to reform the healthcare industry, not replace it, by lowering regulations, allowing across state line purchasing, and getting the government out of the people’s way when it comes to healthcare decisions.

5. **Budget:** Eliminate deficit spending and begin to payback the National Debt by cutting taxes, a proven revenue producer, and reducing governmental costs. Apply remaining stimulus money to the debt.

6. **Federal Regulation:** Reduce federal regulatory agencies and cut their budgets from Federal expenditures; if states want them, they can manage them.

7. **Elimination of Pork:** Eliminate pork-barrel spending by making bills subject specific, eliminating the costly add-ons.

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8. **Transparency:** Excepting bills and discussions deemed secret under the Constitution, all debate and discussion should be televised, a transcript made available to the general public, and all bills available to the general public for a minimum of 72 hours before a vote is cast.

9. **Illegal Immigration:** Strengthen borders. Stop punishing law enforcement for doing its job.

**Bills to be Drafted and Voted Upon within the First Session of the Congress should the Undersigned win the majority:**

**Energy Security Act 2011:** This bill will legalize harvesting domestic fuel sources such as drilling for oil on the continental shelf and in other US-controlled territories, remove restrictive regulations which prevent the construction of new power plants, including nuclear power.

**Scientific Integrity Act of 2011:** This bill will require scientific data upon which legislative decisions will be based to be made 100% available to any who desire to see it, with full disclosure of all methods used to collect and analyze the data, except as national security requires secrecy.

**Research and Development Act of 2011:** This bill will set aside a “Litigation-free zone” where private organizations may rent land to perform experiments and create test beds for new technologies with no fear of reprisal, so long as the consequences of the experiments stay within the development zone. “Reasonable Man” tests may apply.

**Economic Freedom Act of 2011:** To promote immediate job growth, this bill will enact a two year moratorium on corporate taxes, and immediately phase out TARP and Stimulus Bills such that any already-spent money will be handled as-spent, but any money left unspent will be put towards paying down the National Debt. The government will return GM and other companies to private shareholders. Congress shall reinstate and make permanent the Bush tax cuts.

**Property Rights Bill of 2011:** This bill protects the rights of citizens to their property by ensuring that it goes to who they wish after they pass away. The federal government shall collect no part of an estate from the deceased, nor as it transfers to their heirs.

**Eminent Domain Clarification:** Congress shall resolve that the right of Eminent Domain does not apply to any project whose supposed “benefit to the people” comes from improving tax revenues. Its purpose and power is to be used only for public works projects.

**Right to Health Care Act of 2011:** The federal government shall not infringe upon the rights of any individual to choose how, when, where, and why they choose to receive health care, nor from whom. It is left to states to determine accreditation for practitioners of medicine. The federal government shall not interfere with state-run programs. All elected officials will be subject to the same requirements as normal citizens.
Tort Reform Act of 2011: In order to reduce the exorbitant costs added to health care in the United States of America, Congress will pass a bill which eliminates punitive damages, and “hardship” compensation. Malpractice may only be forced to cover medical expenses and “lost work.” Negligence shall be penalized as a criminal offense, if warranted. This applies to companies as well as individual doctors.

Balanced Budget Act: From the moment that this bill is made law, Congress may not pass a budget which includes any amount of deficit spending, save for Treasury Bonds bought by the States. Such bonds will not be honored if held by any entity that is not a State of the Union.

Debt Reduction Act: Taxes may be paid in US Treasury Bonds, which will be honored dollar-for-dollar. Any surplus money will also go directly towards paying down the National Debt.

Regulatory Agency Reform Bill: Congress shall resolve that Federal Regulatory Agencies’ budgets shall be the first to be cut in order to meet the new balanced budget requirements. Congress shall further resolve that it is the right of the States to create or maintain Regulatory Agencies, Commissions, or Boards whose jurisdiction trumps federal agencies, save in Constitutionally-established areas of Federal responsibility. This permits any shortfalls in federal programs in need of reform (such as Social Security and Medicare) to be made up where necessary without concern of federal backlash.

Single Subject Legislation Bill: From the time that this bill is made law, every piece of legislation proposed will have a specific subject stated at the beginning of the legislation. Any Legislation that does not have this or has anything that doesn’t pertain to the subject is null and void. This will not pertain to legislation that is made law before this bill is made law.

Transparency Bill of 2011: Except National Security bills and Emergency bills (declared by the president) all bills will be available for viewing online for at least 7 days before a vote can be taken. All debate on a bill, excepting secret debate as per the Constitution, shall be on C-span both televised and online.

Illegal Immigration Act of 2011: Congress shall resolve to increase enforcement of existing law, passing bills to close loopholes if they become necessary. States are also permitted to enforce immigration law within their own borders as they see fit.

Southern Border Security Act: In order to reduce the flood of illegal immigrants across our southern border, a public works project to construct a physical border between the United States and Mexico shall be begun.

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