

Contract with America II

Sixty percent of the population thinks the country is going in the wrong direction. The middle class is under threat where for the first time most parents think that their children will not be better off than themselves. The government is more interested in who goes to what bathroom, limiting the size of your soft drink or the welfare of illegal immigrants than the welfare of the average citizen. Criminal rights are more important than providing adequate medical care to our veterans.

We are involved in a series of never ending wars protecting our friends and enemies alike all at the expense of the average citizen. We give large sums of money to aid other countries but do not have enough money to rebuild our infrastructure or support the average citizen.

The bottom line is that we need a radical change in direction to put us back on the principles that this country were founded on. The economy is like a three legged stool, it is based upon monetary policy, regulations and taxes. The problem with the economy is for the last seven years only the Federal Reserve has, through monetary policies, tried to help the economy. The Federal Government has gone in the opposite direction by increasing taxes and regulations. Japan has demonstrated that monetary policies alone cannot save the economy.

Lincoln came into office with little or no foreign policy experience but recognized that a strong national economy is the best foreign policy. It is no different today than it was in Lincoln's time. John F Kennedy said "ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country" and finally Theodore Roosevelt said "when dealing with foreign policy issues speak softly and carry a big stick". These should be the benchmarks that guide the country back to its entrepreneurial spirit that made the country great.

Everyone agrees that there is a segment of the population that needs our help but there is something wrong when 46% of the population is on some form of welfare. Welfare should be the responsibility of local governments and not the federal government.

We all want everyone to be treated equal and have an opportunity to achieve within their ability but it is equally wrong to impose special protection under the law to small segments of the population that have major financial and social impacts on the economy and average citizen.

The average citizen knows what has to be done. Why can't our leaders make it happen? The answer is simple greed, power and special interests.

The English have finally had enough and voted to leave the European Union. Have we reached our limits?

The following is the first step to putting the nation back on the path to growth and a strong middle class which is the backbone of the country.

Economy

1. Flat tax of 10% on all income, no deductions
 - a. Bottom 10% of population no tax
 - b. Top 5% of population 20% no deductions
 - c. Corporate tax 20% no deductions
 - d. Implement a corporate territorial tax system
2. Regulations
 - a. Limited to 80% of the goal to be achieved. The last 20% has shown not to be cost effective and have significant impact on the economy.
 - b. Move to state level unless involves interstate
 - c. No national minimum wage
 - d. Repeal all laws protecting special interest segments of the economy
 - i. Jones Act
 - ii. Ethanol
 - iii. Community Reinvestment Act
 - iv. Dodd Frank
 - v. Labor
 - vi. Etc.
3. Eliminate or reduce the following departments to only the essentials that deal with interstate issues: The Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Labor, and Transportation
4. Limit the federal government's involvement to only funding the interstate highway system.
5. Local funding for local state roads should be the responsibility of the state
6. Prohibit the federal government from picking winners and losers in segments of the industry.
7. Limit the federal government's involvement in issues to basic research and national defense.
8. The Federal Reserve's objective should be limited to providing a stable currency and controlling inflation.

Trade

1. All trade agreements must include not only address tariffs but the country's internal regulations that prohibits U.S. products and services, and the value of currency
2. Negative balances in trade between the U.S. and other countries should be capped. Those exceeding the cap would be required to provide offset by buying U.S. products or have their ability to sell in the country limited to the cap.

Education

1. Eliminate or reduce the Department of Education
2. Initially provide block transfers of 80% of the funds allocated to the state and continue reducing funding over 4 years
3. Education should be the sole responsibility of the state, no national standards
4. Eliminate the Title I programs
5. Eliminate federal loans to education
6. Repeal Title IX

Health and Human Services

1. Eliminate or reduce the Department of Health and Human Services
2. Social Security as it is should be maintained for those within 10 years of retirement. All others should be converted to personal savings plans
3. Social Security payments for those still eligible with incomes over \$500,000 should be eliminated
4. Medicare as it is should be maintained for those within 10 years of retirement all others should be switched to private insurance through medical savings plans.
5. Medicaid should be the responsibility of the state and totally funded by the state.
6. Medical insurance plans should be allowed to be sold across state lines and should be the responsibility of the state
7. Repeal Obama Care
8. Eliminate the federal food stamp program
9. Eliminate supplemental income to low income families
10. Welfare should be the sole responsibility of the state and local governments and should be limited to the bottom 10% of the population

Housing and Urban Development and Interior Departments

1. Eliminate both departments and transfer the responsibilities to the states
2. The federal government should only be involved if it involves interstate issues
3. Eliminate all federal funding for low cost housing and rent support. Block grant to the state and phase out over 4 years.

Immigration

1. Eliminate all federal funding to illegal immigrants
2. Require all businesses to e verify employees for employment
3. Eliminate all federal funding to sanctuary cities and states
4. Total federal enforcement of the law
5. Build the fence across the U.S. and Mexican Border and impose a 15% transfer fee for all financial transactions to Mexico to pay for it.
6. Deport all illegal felons after serving sentence. Add a mandatory five years for every repeat illegal entry.
7. Track all visa immigrants and deport when visa runs out.

8. Repeal all laws that pertain to the parents of anchor babies. Babies born to illegal parents are to be considered nationals of the parent's country.
9. All illegal immigrants after 1986 should be subject to deportation
10. All legal immigration should require a financial sponsor. No federal funding for immigrants.
11. Students on educational visas in critical skills should be offered a work permit and a path to citizenship after graduation provided they have a job sponsor.
12. Legal immigrants would have to be screened for security and disease to assure that they do not represent a threat to the general public.

National Defense

1. We should support the spread of liberal democratic values but should not promote regime change because a country does not fit our form of representative government.
2. The United States should help keep the world peaceful and operating on liberal democratic policies but not be the world's global policeman. The United States has 5 percent of the world's population and produces 25 percent of the world's output, but pays more than 40 percent of the world's defense costs.
3. The U.S. should maintain a strong national defense and use it to support national interests and protect U.S. citizens.
4. The sole purpose of the military is to protect the nation, its people and its interest and not to provide humanitarian support to the world.