

DEFEND OUR COUNTRY - RESTORE ACCOUNTABILITY - GROW OUR ECONOMY -  
STRENGTHEN OUR FAMILIES - PRESERVE OUR PLANET - DEFEND OUR COUNTRY -  
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# A NEW DIRECTION

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## A NEW DIRECTION

The 110th Congress is making progress for the American people on the toughest challenges we face—working together to defend our country, restore accountability, grow our economy, strengthen our families, and preserve our planet.

Since January, more than 68 key measures have passed the House, with 49, or more than 70 percent, receiving significant bipartisan support. In critical instances, the President and his Republican allies in Congress have stubbornly stood in the way of progress with more than 20 vetoes threatened.

The New Direction Congress is working to change course in Iraq. This war, now into its fifth year, has not made America safer, even as our troops have bravely performed their duties. This Congress continues to demand that President Bush and the Administration be held accountable, that the Iraqi government take responsibility for its own country, and that we responsibly bring this war to an end.

The New Direction Congress is protecting America—acting to finally make the work of the independent 9/11 Commission the law of the land. We are rebuilding our military readiness and requiring that we re-engage our diplomatic allies. We are honoring our troops and veterans with improved pay, services, and care they deserve. We are declaring our energy independence and working to reverse global warming.

The New Direction Congress is providing the keys to the American dream—investing in American ingenuity and innovation that will create millions of good jobs here at home. We are working to bring quality health care to every American child, and ensure that every child arrives at school ready to learn. We are making America's rural heartland a key to America's future economic and energy security. We have changed the way we do business in Washington by restoring fiscal responsibility, government transparency, and the highest ethical standards to Congress.

These are the first of many steps in **A NEW DIRECTION** for a stronger and more secure America.



## ACCOMPLISHED

- ★ First minimum wage increase in 10 years
- ★ Tough rules to establish highest ethical standards in Congressional history
- ★ Pay-as-you-go budget discipline restored to end six years of deficit spending
- ★ Fiscal discipline that produces a balanced budget by 2012
- ★ Emergency funding to support and equip troops, including tripling Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles in Iraq
- ★ Tighter rules against foreign investment that weaken national security, after the Dubai Ports scandal
- ★ Benchmarks and progress report required on Iraq
- ★ Emergency assistance to protect children's health coverage
- ★ Overdue disaster aid to farmers and ranchers
- ★ Overdue hurricane aid to rebuild Gulf Coast housing, hospitals, schools, and levees
- ★ Emergency funding to fight wildfires
- ★ U.S. Attorney appointments protected from political influence
- ★ Vigorous Congressional oversight restored after six years, saving billions of taxpayer dollars, exposing corruption and incompetence
- ★ Green the Capitol plan launched to cut carbon footprint 50%
- ★ National Summit on America's Children to align policies with latest science

## HEADED FOR PRESIDENT'S DESK FOR APPROVAL

- ★ 9/11 Commission recommendations to screen all air cargo and overseas port cargo, improving communications between first responders

## ON PRESIDENT'S DESK FOR APPROVAL

- ★ Reduction of backlog on passports after 9/11 requirement through hiring boost

## PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE

- ★ Largest expansion of college aid since GI Bill
- ★ Sweeping lobby reform effort
- ★ New quality care standards for wounded military personnel
- ★ 3.5% military pay raise, larger than President's proposal
- ★ Double basic research & development funding for American Innovation
- ★ Head Start preschool improved and expanded
- ★ Reform of unethical practices by student loan industry
- ★ Authorizing prosecution of gas price gouging and OPEC price fixing
- ★ Safe drinking water efforts expanded
- ★ Sweeping reform of prescription drug safety
- ★ Convicted Members prevented from getting Congressional pensions

## PASSED HOUSE

- ★ Largest increase for veterans' health care in history
- ★ Major new investments in equipment and training for troops to meet the worst readiness crisis since the Vietnam War
- ★ 3,000 new border patrol agents, tougher aviation and port security funded
- ★ Farm Bill for 21st century shifts priorities to family farmers, crop diversity, nutrition, and biofuels
- ★ Repeal of \$14 billion in giveaways to Big Oil, reinvested in clean energy, energy efficiency
- ★ Clean, renewable energy spurred with \$3 billion investment
- ★ Math/science scholarships for 100,000 students, 25,000 teachers
- ★ Incentives for small business innovation to compete globally
- ★ Federal small business loans made more affordable
- ★ Small businesses guaranteed fair access to federal contracts
- ★ Voter deception made a federal crime, voter intimidation penalties increased
- ★ Free choice for workers to bargain for better wages and benefits
- ★ Medicare required to negotiate cheaper prescription drugs
- ★ Discrimination based on genetics banned in health care
- ★ 50,000 new police officers on the street
- ★ Background checks for gun purchases improved nationwide
- ★ Collective bargaining rights allowed for public safety officers nationwide
- ★ Pay discrimination law fixed to protect women in the workforce
- ★ D.C. voting rights in Congress
- ★ Government contracting reformed to stop waste, fraud, and abuse
- ★ Whistleblower protections strengthened
- ★ Public access to Presidential records restored
- ★ Public access to government strengthened through Freedom of Information Act reforms
- ★ Members of Congress barred from putting spouses on campaign payrolls
- ★ Shareholders given a vote on excessive executive pay

## HEADED FOR HOUSE VOTE

- ★ Energy Independence initiative to promote clean American renewable fuels and energy efficiency, and to reduce global warming
- ★ Health coverage for 6 million children protected and 5 million more eligible children to be enrolled
- ★ Seniors' access to doctors protected

## VETOED BY PRESIDENT OVER WILL OF PEOPLE

- ★ Timetables to responsibly redeploy troops from Iraq
- ★ Expansion of life-saving medical research on stem cells