



## **SLOW DOWN, MR. PRESIDENT** *RNC Chairman Michael Steele Asks President Obama To Delay Health Care Experiment, Focus On Creating Jobs: Will Democrats Join Our Call?*

**FROM RNC CHAIRMAN MICHAEL STEELE'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT OBAMA:** *"Whether you are a Democrat or Republican, all of us can agree on this: In this uncertain economy, growth and jobs have to be our priorities. The American people think of little else. Common sense tells us this is the worst possible moment for Congress to risk spending another trillion dollars we don't have. This is not the time to gamble a trillion dollars on a 2,000 page health care experiment Congress is stitching together by the seat of its pants."*  
(Chairman Michael Steele, Letter To President Obama, 12/8/09)

### **WILL THESE SENATE DEMOCRATS JOIN OUR CALL?**

**SEN. BLANCHE LINCOLN (D-AR):** **"Creating Jobs, Putting Our Economy Back On The Right Track, Is My No. 1 Priority ..."** (John Lyon, "Lincoln: Economy, Not Health Care, No. 1 Priority," [Arkansas News](#), 11/23/09)

**SEN. EVAN BAYH (D-IN):** **"[J]obs should be our top priority and we shouldn't do anything that detracts from that ..."**  
(Alexander Bolton, "Democrats Feeling Angst Over 2010," [The Hill](#), 11/4/09)

**SEN. MICHAEL BENNET (D-CO):** **"The economy is the highest priority [with the country in] the largest recession we've seen since 1930."** (Sue Lindsay, "Sen. Bennet On Display At Museum," [The Rocky Mountain News](#), 1/25/09)

**SEN. BYRON DORGAN (D-ND):** **"I am concerned about a large number of very significant issues, but we need to keep focused on restarting this economic engine."** (Billy House & Dan Friedman, "Dems' Wariness Grows Over Agenda," National Journal's Congress Daily, 7/20/09)

### **WILL THESE HOUSE DEMOCRATS JOIN OUR CALL?**

**REP. JASON ALTMIRE (D-PA):** **"I'm not saying don't do big things. But maybe we should wait until we get the economy stabilized ..."** (Alan K. Ota, "Heartland Democrats Urge An Inward Look," [CQ Today](#), 3/31/09)

**REP. JOHN BOCCIERI (D-OH):** **"During this great recession, our priority should be saving and creating jobs and helping our manufacturers modernize to compete in the global economy ..."** (Rep. Christopher Lee, "Congressmen Lee, Boccieri Introduce Bipartisan Legislation To Make Research & Development Tax Credit Permanent," [Press Release](#), 3/17/09)

**REP. DAN BOREN (D-OK):** **"I think voters sent a clear message that the administration and Congress need to focus on the economy ... We need to focus on creating jobs right now, and you don't do that by raising taxes on small business ..."** (Martin Vaughan, "Election Results Give Some Democrats Health-Care Jitters," [The Wall Street Journal](#), 11/4/09)

**REP. RICK BOUCHER (D-VA):** **"My top priority is to encourage economic development and the creation of new jobs for Southwest Virginians."** (Rep. Rick Boucher, "Starting A Small Business In Southwest Virginia," [Boucher.House.Gov](#), 1/18/09)

**REP. PETER DEFAZIO (D-OR):** **"There are a lot of Democrats who ... want to see something more effective done to create employment."** (Sam Stein, "Peter Defazio, Dem Rep.: It's 'Pretty Embarrassing' That Dems Now Identified With Wall Street," [The Huffington Post](#), 11/20/09)

**REP. STEVE DRIEHAUS (D-OH):** “Our top priority has been trying to turn around our ailing economy ... [W]e still have a long way to go...” (Rep. Steve Driehaus, [Letter To Friends](#), 5/13/09)

**REP. PARKER GRIFFITH (D-AL):** “One of my top priorities lies in maintaining and increasing the economic stability of North Alabama.” (“Economic Development,” [Griffith.House.Gov](#), Accessed 12/7/09)

**REP. DEBBIE HALVORSON (D-IL):** “Getting our economy back on track so that it works for working Americans is one of [my] most important priorities.” (“Economy,” [Halvorson.House.Gov](#), Accessed 12/7/09)

**REP. JOHN TANNER (D-TN):** “If it was up to me, I would figure out how to handle the war and fix the economy ...” (Alexander Bolton, “Democrats Feeling Angst Over 2010,” [The Hill](#), 11/4/09)

**REP. DINA TITUS (D-NV):** “It is critical that we focus our efforts on creating good jobs that will put Nevadans back to work.” (Rep. Dina Titus, “Titus: ‘It Is Critical That We Focus Our Efforts on Creating Good Jobs That Will Put Nevadans Back to Work,’” [Press Release](#), 12/2/09)

**REP. CHARLIE WILSON (D-OH):** “I had three major goals ... when I came to congress: jobs, jobs, jobs.” (Rep. Charlie Wilson, “Growing Jobs At Home,” [Congressional Webpage](#), Accessed 12/7/09)

## **EVEN DEMOCRAT GOVERNORS AGREE**

**GOV. ED RENDELL (D-PA):** “Health care does affect the entire economic structure, but the economy is number one, even at Allentown. Although the Lehigh Valley is coming back and getting a lot of businesses from New York and New Jersey. But jobs are number one everywhere.” (Governor Ed Rendell, [MSNBC’s “Morning Joe,”](#) 12/7/09)