

**Yankee Steve's Column**  
**for the Week of September 23, 2010**

Dear Reader,

The Republican Party has for some time now has been controlled by the likes of George W. Bush and Karl Rove (neo-cons - conservative look-a-likes). This same party has just issued a 22-page statement called ***Pledge to America***. It reflects some of the influence of the Tea Party movement. However, I would not put too much stock in Republicans who walk along the middle of the road. That is where Jesse Helms [1921-2008] [D-NC] said you will find a yellow stripe and a dead skunk.

The *Pledge* has received mixed reviews from Conservatives. You be the judge. As for me, I think that a Rino though big in size can easily hide behind a Bush! I do not miss George W. Bush, Colin Powell, or Dick Cheney. They were not only liberal when it comes to fiscal matters, but all too silent when it came to moral issues.

This week's column is a brief summary of the Republican pledge. I have underlined what I believe is most important.

In conclusion, I will add what I believe the Republicans pledge should have included.

***Republican Pledge to America, September 23, 2010***

**Jobs:**

- Stop job-killing tax hikes
- Allow small businesses to take a tax deduction equal to 20% of their income
- Require Congressional approval for any new federal regulation that would add to the deficit
- Repeal small business mandates in the new health care law

**Cutting Spending:**

- Repeal and replace health care
- Roll back non-discretionary spending to 2008 levels before TARP and stimulus (at a savings of \$100 billion in first year alone)
- Establish strict budget caps to limit future federal spending

- Cancel all future TARP payments and reform Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac

### **Reforming Congress:**

- Require that every bill have a citation of constitutional authority
- Give members at least three (3) days to read bills before a vote

### **Defense:**

- Provide resources to troops
- Fund missile defense
- Enforce sanctions in Iran

### **My Thoughts about What Additionally Should Have Been Pledged**

- All bills presented to Congress must be voted on one by one, no more paper clip add-ons.
- Cap and Trade must not be allowed to come to a vote.
- Do away with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac altogether, I mean close these agencies. They serve the cause of Socialism.
- Close the Federal Reserve Bank. Return America to the gold or silver standard so that printed money has an actual verifiable worth, so that a paper dollar has a dollar's worth of gold or silver backing it.
- Limit the powers of the Chief Executive so that we cannot pursue objectives overseas without a declaration of war from Congress. Yes, it is true that the Congress must fund all military expeditions, but that has not been working because of mass hysteria which was effectively employed by the Bush administration so that it could invade Iraq. Neo-conservative interventionism must come to an end.
- **Pass an amendment to the Constitution that prohibits Congress from authorizing any budget that is more than five percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for that year.**
- Privatize Medicare and Medicaid. The government must get out of the healthcare business. No more ownership of car companies, etc. and no more bail-outs of any kind. We are capitalists, not communists.
- Declare a two-year moratorium on all federal taxes for start-up businesses employing 20 or more full-time employees.

- Declare a one-year moratorium on all federal taxes for start-up companies employing ten or more employees.
- Reassess the U.S. Department of Education
- Assign 10,000 troops to the border along Mexico in order to prevent illegal aliens from entering America. Fully equip them with helicopters and the most modern detection equipment. Repatriate those who have entered America illegally. Remove the magnet, the social welfare programs which attract illegal aliens.
- Make English the national language of America. Official documents must be written in only one language, English.
- Prohibit the federal government from borrowing from Social Security.
- Support “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” which proscribes homosexual practice for all who serve in the military.
- American companies which go overseas in order to employ cheap labor, but do not pay tariffs because they have taken advantage of free trade agreements (e.g., NAFTA), should be penalized. These jobs belong in America. Lift all tariffs on imports; end Obama-style protectionism which in the long run hurts exporting and allows domestic companies to charge higher prices.
- No longer fund Public Broadcasting through taxpayer money because its left-wing bias is all too apparent, and because we should not have to pay for programs like the “History Detectives,” etc. Let some private company produce “Antiques Roadshow” and “Sesame Street.”

Ever yours,

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