



U.S. House of Representatives



Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

# The Pelosi Report

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Dear Friends:

This edition of The Pelosi Report includes highlights of October activities and legislative initiatives and a special salute to our nation's men and women in uniform. As Congress prepares for end of the year recess, Democrats will continue to fight to leave no American behind.

I encourage you to review this bulletin and share the information with your constituency and other leaders in your community.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives

## Leader's African American Working Group Travels to Alabama State University

Last month, Congressmen Artur Davis (D-AL) and Kendrick Meek (D-FL) spoke to students from



Rep. Davis discusses higher education issues at ASU.

Alabama State University (ASU) and schools in the surrounding area, at a Town Hall Meeting on how young people can impact Congress. The event was hosted by state Senator Quinton Ross. The Congressmen represented Leader Pelosi's African-American Working Group, which serves to increase dialogue on key issues affecting African Americans

such as education, economic development, health care, homeland security, and housing. This Town Hall was the second in a series of meetings across the country.



Rep. Meek speaks with students following the forum.

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## A Salute to our Nation's Veterans



*"Veterans Day is a day to honor and remember the courageous and faithful men and women who have served our country in uniform. No group of Americans has stood stronger and braver for our nation than our veterans. From the bitter cold winter at Valley Forge to the boiling hot Iraqi terrain, our soldiers have courageously answered when called, gone where ordered, and defended our nation with honor."*



*"On the battlefields of war, our soldiers pledge to leave no one behind. As a nation it must be our pledge that, after our soldiers come home, we will leave no veteran behind. Our veterans served for all of us. We must be there for all of them."*

*"Democrats have proposed a comprehensive package of legislation that keeps America's promise to our veterans. Today, veterans' health care is in crisis, with 60,000 veterans waiting up to six months for an appointment at Veterans Affairs hospitals. Democrats are fighting to provide an additional \$1.8 billion for next year to improve veterans' health care. And we have taken action to block the Bush Administration's proposal to increase prescription drug co-payments and enrollment fees."*

*"Democrats are leading the charge to end the national disgrace of the disabled veterans tax, which denies more than 500,000 disabled veterans their full retirement and disability benefits. Because of Democratic pressure, the Republicans have put forward a plan, but it leaves far too many veterans behind. Under the Republican plan, two-thirds of our veterans still will not receive one penny of compensation for their disabilities. Democrats will stand for all of our disabled veterans and will continue to fight for full concurrent receipt, making sure that no soldier is left behind."*

*"On this Veterans Day, with tomorrow's veterans now serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, we should renew our national promise to fulfill our sacred obligations to those who have worn this nation's uniform. Our veterans and their families ask for nothing more. They deserve nothing less."  
-Leader Pelosi, 11/11/03*



## Democrats Remember American Needs at Home

Earlier this month, Senate and House Democrats launched **Operation Homefront** — an urgent call on the Bush Administration to take immediate steps to address unmet priorities here at home.

As part of Operation Homefront, Democrats will work to advance legislation that would revitalize our economy, lower the cost of health care, protect our environment, help veterans, and improve public schools. Proposals include the following:

- **blocking the Bush Administration's rule that would strip overtime protections from nearly 8 million workers;**
- **funding for veterans health care;**
- **increasing funding for education reforms and aid to college students;**
- **providing a tax credit to keep manufacturing jobs in the US;**
- **increasing the minimum wage;**
- **providing health insurance for National Guard and Reserves;**
- **reducing prescription drug prices and providing a real Medicare benefit;**
- **funding clean-up of toxic waste sites; and**
- **reversing environmental rollbacks.**



## Affordable Housing Trust Fund Will Pay Dividends for Generations to Come

Earlier this month, Leader Nancy Pelosi released the following statement co-sponsoring the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which provides development, rehabilitation, and preservation of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low-income families:

“The National Affordable Housing Trust Fund is an investment in our nation’s families and communities that will pay dividends for generations to come. The trust fund will enable developers to rehabilitate and preserve at least 1.5 million affordable rental units over the next decade, while generating up to 1.8 million jobs and \$50 billion in wages. It will give developers the leverage they need to secure additional public and private group funding.

“Millions of Americans pay more than 50 percent of their earnings on housing. Congress should help them secure the affordable, safe, and energy-efficient homes they deserve. Working families should not be forced to choose between housing, health care, food, and other basic needs.

“Democrats remain committed to improving the lives of hard-working Americans by building and rehabilitating housing for those who need them most. I am proud to join more than 200 of my colleagues in Congress, led by Congressman Bernie Sanders, to make the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund a reality.”



## Black Women in Finance

In October, Leader Pelosi addressed the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Black Women and Finance Symposium participants. The symposium focused on issues that are vital to the success of Women CEO’s in the financial field. Participants included African American women from the banking, finance and corporate sectors, Chief Financial Officers and Corporate CEOs of Fortune 500 companies.



*Happy Thanksgiving!*