



The Pelosi Report

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U.S. House of Representatives
Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

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Dear African American Leader:

On July 28th, the U.S. House of Representatives began its August recess. In the first seven months of this Congress, the President and House Republicans have time and time again chosen the special interests over the public interest.

We recessed without extending the child tax credit to working and military families in our country.

The Republican Majority underfunded the very education programs they pretend to support, including K-12 and HBCUs; they dismantled the Head Start program that has been an avenue of opportunity for so many; they have rammed through legislation that will not make prescription drugs affordable for seniors and the disabled -- in fact it will leave seniors at the mercy of HMOs and big insurance companies and raise premiums by as much as 25 percent; they shortchanged veterans' health care and refused to repeal the disabled veterans tax that reduces the retirement benefits of many older disabled veterans. To add insult to injury, they also proposed limiting overtime pay for millions of hardworking Americans, as well as changing our pension laws to cut the private pensions of many older workers in half.

Democrats fought these proposals which will make it harder for working families to succeed and African American working families will be hit particularly hard. We will continue fighting for opportunity, jobs, homeland security, education, health care, and pension security for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pelosi

Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and basketball legend Earvin "Magic" Johnson teamed up earlier in July to push to make HIV/AIDS drugs more available to those in need.



Report Card on Children

Name: House Republicans

Class: America's Children & Students

School Year: 2003 - 2004

Child Tax Credit	F
Head Start	F
No Child Left Behind	F
College Grants	F

Child Tax Credit - Republicans have denied 12 million children and their families the expanded child tax credit provided to higher-income taxpayers in the new tax law, including the 262,000 children of military families.

Head Start - Rather than fully funding Head Start, Republicans have proposed legislation to block grant the program and eliminate its high standards, and have passed legislation that will not allow for any additional children to enroll in this important preschool program.

Education K-12/No Child Left Behind - Republicans have broken their promises to America's children and parents by voting to underfund the landmark No Child Left Behind Act by \$8 billion - meaning that 2.2 million children will not get help with the basics of reading and math and one million children will not have access to after-school programs.

College Grants - Republicans have voted to make college less affordable by freezing Pell Grants at last year's level in the face of skyrocketing college tuitions - meaning that these vital college grants would finance less than 40 percent of the cost of a public university, compared to 84 percent when the Pell Grant program was established.



Johnson, who was diagnosed with HIV in 1991, met with Pelosi to discuss the importance of allocating more federal dollars for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), which funds programs that help dispense medications to low-income AIDS patients in the United States.

Legislative Update

Where are the jobs?

In July, 470,000 people abandoned their job searches and 3.2 million private sector jobs have been lost since President Bush took office. Over nine million Americans remain unemployed.

While the national unemployment rate dropped slightly in July, it still stands at a near record high. **The unemployment rate for African Americans in July was still over 11 percent - that's approximately 2 million African Americans without jobs.**

The poor economy under the Bush Administration has had a particularly devastating impact on the nation's manufacturing sector - a sector that historically has provided an important underpinning for our economy and African Americans. In July, the economy lost an additional 71,000 manufacturing jobs. Overall, 2.5 million of the net loss of 3.2 million private-sector jobs since January 2001 have been in the manufacturing sector.

Democrats supported an economic growth package that would have created 1 million jobs this year, by providing tax cuts to middle-income Americans and small businesses that drive the economy, providing relief for states and the unemployed, and investing in highways to create good paying jobs and strong communities.



Broken Promises to America's Veterans

The fight to fully support veterans' health care continues. The House Republican leadership should keep its promise and restore the \$1.8 billion, as called for by our nation's veterans' organizations. Currently, there are over 2.5 million African American Veterans.

The veterans' health care system is in crisis. More than 100,000 veterans are waiting six months or more for a medical appointment at Veterans Administration hospitals; the health care system is failing to serve the needs of our veterans. How do Republicans respond? By drastically underfunding veterans' health care by \$1.8 billion.

President Bush and House Republicans owe it to the men and women who defended our country to keep their promise to provide the quality health care that our veterans deserve and have earned. This should not be a partisan issue.

Democrats fought to increase funding for veterans' health care at every opportunity in committee and on the House floor. We offered amendments to increase veterans' health care funding in committee. We overwhelmingly voted on the House floor to increase the funding, but Republicans repeatedly defeated these measures.

We will continue to fight to fulfill our promise to those who have paid the high price for our freedom — those who have worn our nation's uniform.

Having Her Say



PELOSI ADDRESSES NAACP 94TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

On Sunday, July 13, Leader Pelosi addressed several thousand NAACP leaders during the 94th Annual NAACP Convention in Miami, FL. She was well received by President Mfume, Chairman Bond and thousands of convention delegates. In her remarks, Leader Pelosi praised the NAACP for being a "great" force in this nation for Justice, Equality and Opportunity."



REMEMBERING A MARCH FOR AMERICA

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi joined civil rights and Congressional leaders on July 23 for a ceremony to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the March on Washington. In her remarks, Pelosi stated:

"Today we gather to commemorate an historic day in the life of our nation and to celebrate the spirit of America. Today we celebrate the 1963 March on Washington, which affirms our values — the ideals of equality and opportunity that we cherish as a nation. We must reaffirm our unwavering commitment to civil rights and civil liberties. We must build a country of opportunity, where every person has the chance to realize his or her God-given potential. We must build a country that values diversity, where we stand together as one people. We must ensure that every citizen has the right to vote and that every vote is counted. We must be constantly challenged by Dr. King's words about the 'fierce urgency of now.' We must expand the promise of America now. We all love to say 'God Bless America' in speech and in song, but in the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., John Lewis, and all who marched that day, God truly blessed America."

To view Leader Pelosi's complete statement visit www.democraticleader.gov.