



## Republicans: Bad for Business

*Republicans try to brand themselves as the party of business, but their rhetoric doesn't match their record. Rather than work with Democrats to help American businesses create jobs and growth, Republicans have repeatedly stood in the way of common sense solutions as part of their plan to slow down the recovery and score political points at the expense of the American economy. Their desire to put political gain over shared prosperity has blocked assistance for employers, created uncertainty for companies, and cost or threatened millions of jobs.*

- **Republicans Blocked Inclusion of Business-supported “Tax Extenders” in the Payroll Tax Cut Package.** Extension of dozens of temporary business incentives has historically been bipartisan, with the last renewal of these “extenders” passing the Senate with 81 votes. This year, Republicans blocked Democratic efforts to extend growth and job creating measures like the R&D tax credit as part of the deal to renew the payroll tax cut. The extension of these expiring incentives has been supported by numerous businesses and organizations including the Business Roundtable, R&D Credit Coalition, and National Association of Manufacturers. *Studies have shown that the existing R&D credit raises employment by 90,000 jobs in the short-term.* [[Senate Vote 276](#), 12/15/10; [Ernst & Young](#), 9/11; [Reuters](#), 1/31/12; [Roll Call](#), 1/25/12; [Business Roundtable](#), 1/31/12; [R&D Credit Coalition](#), 11/9/11]
- **Republicans Blocked Reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank.** The last long-term reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank, in 2006, was introduced by a Republican and passed by unanimous consent. This year Senate Republicans, including the measure’s Republican cosponsors, voted against this proven job creator. Reauthorization of the Export – Import Bank is strongly supported by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Business Roundtable, and National Association of Manufacturers. *In FY 2011 the Bank supported an estimated 288,000 American jobs at more than 3,600 companies.* [[Export-Import Bank](#); [S.3938](#), 109<sup>th</sup> Congress; [Senate Vote 52](#), 3/20/12; [US Chamber of Commerce](#), 3/15/12; [Business Roundtable](#), 3/30/12; [National Association of Manufacturers](#); 3/15/12]
- **House Republicans Have Not Passed the Bipartisan Senate Transportation Jobs Bill.** Over a month ago, the Senate passed a long-term transportation reauthorization bill that would create jobs and support growth by making urgently needed repairs to our national infrastructure. House Republicans have not taken up and passed this bill. States are considering putting projects on the back-burner and S&P warns of credit downgrades due to uncertainty from short-term extensions. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has called for passage of a long-term transportation bill. *The bipartisan Senate transportation jobs bill would save or create almost 3 million jobs.* [[Senate Vote 48](#), 3/14/12; [Fiscal Times](#), 4/4/12; [Senate Environment and Public Works Committee](#), [US Chamber of Commerce](#), 3/26/2012]

- Republicans Blocked Efforts to Extend Job Creating Clean Energy Incentives.** As part of the Repeal Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act of 2012, Democrats proposed ending more than \$20 billion in tax subsidies for Big Oil and reinvesting these savings in clean energy incentives with a proven history of promoting job creation and economic growth, including the renewable energy Production Tax Credit, 48C Advanced Energy Manufacturing Credit, and Section 1603 Program. Republicans blocked passage of this proposal on a largely party-line vote. Over 750 companies, small businesses, and organizations have called for the extension of the Section 1603 Program. *It has been estimated that failure to extend the Production Tax Credit could lead to a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> decline in wind direct manufacturing jobs and cause total wind employment to decline by 37,000 jobs from 2012 to 2013. The Department of Energy estimated that the initial round of 48C tax credits would create 58,000 jobs, and the Section 1603 Program has supported up to 75,000 jobs. It has been estimated that extending the Section 1603 Program for one year would lead to an additional 37,000 jobs in the solar industry in 2012.* [Navigant Energy, 12/11/11; [DOE](#), 1/8/10; [DOE](#), 4/6/12; [Senate Vote #63](#), 3/29/12; [SEIA](#), 11/30/11; [EuPD Research](#), 10/12/11]
- Republicans Blocked Tax Relief for Job Creation and Pay Raises.** As part of the American Jobs Act and the Middle Class Tax Cut Act, Democrats proposed targeted tax relief to stimulate job creation, payroll increases, and economic growth. Democrats supported a payroll tax holiday for employers, and completely refunding employer payroll taxes on added workers or wage increases for up to \$50 million in new payroll. However, Republicans blocked this proposal twice on largely party-line votes. These provisions were supported by the Small Business Majority, and in a recent poll of small business owners 50% favored temporarily cutting and suspending payroll taxes for employers and employees. *Moody's Mark Zandi estimated that employer payroll relief like that included in these bills would have created 300,000 jobs.* [[Senate Vote #160](#), 10/11/11; [Senate Vote #219](#), 12/1/11; [Moody's](#), 9/9/11; [SBM](#), 9/23/11; [ASBC](#), [MSA](#), [SBM](#), 1/26/12]
- Republicans Blocked Reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration.** Last year, Senate Democrats worked to reauthorize the Economic Development Administration (EDA), which works to promote job creation and to accelerate industrial and commercial growth in communities suffering from limited job opportunities, low per capita income levels, or similar economic distress. In June, Senate Republicans unanimously blocked the Democratic bill to reauthorize EDA programs. Reauthorization of the EDA has been supported by a variety of development groups, including the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Development Organizations. *Since the beginning of the Obama administration, EDA has funded public/private partnerships that grantees estimate have created 161,500 jobs. FY 2011 alone the EDA created or saved 51,000 jobs through infrastructure development.* [[Testimony of Assistant Secretary Fernandez](#), 3/3/11; [Commerce](#), 12/27/2011; [Senate Vote 94](#), 6/21/11; [NADO](#), 11/1/11]

- **Republicans Caused an Economy Damaging Downgrade.** In August, Tea Party-led Republicans willfully manufactured a crisis over the debt ceiling and brought the country to the brink of default. Even though the debt ceiling was eventually raised, S&P still issued the first ever downgrade of the U.S. credit rating, citing “...greater policymaking uncertainty...,” the fact that, “the statutory debt ceiling and the threat of default have become political bargaining chips, and that, “...Republicans in Congress continue to resist any measure that would raise revenues....” Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke noted the damage to the economy, stating, “The negotiations that took place over the summer disrupted financial markets and probably the economy as well...there seems little doubt that they have hurt household and business confidence and that the pose ongoing risks to growth.” [[S&P](#), 8/5/11; [Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke](#), 8/26/11]
- **Republican Efforts To Repeal Health Reform Would Kill Jobs.** The Affordable Care Act is poised to drive job creation in the health care field and will make it easier on employers and individuals by slowing the growth of health care costs. However, Republicans have repeatedly voted to repeal health reform and eliminate these benefits. Repeal is opposed by the Small Business Majority. *Repealing health reform could kill as many as 400,000 jobs annually over the next decade. It has also been estimated that without reform 178,000 small business jobs would be lost.* [[CAP](#), 1/2011; [WSJ](#), 1/31/12; [House Vote 151](#), 3/29/12; [Senate Vote 77](#), 5/25/11; [House Vote 277](#), 4/15/11; [Senate Vote 9](#), 2/2/11; [House Vote 14](#), 1/26/11; [SBM](#), 3/30/11]
- **Republicans Attack Job Creating Department of Energy Loans.** The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office identified the DOE Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program as among the most effective drivers of economic activity in terms of bang for the buck in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. DOE loans and guarantees help bring emerging technologies to market scale fueling economic growth. Efforts to slash support for or dismantle DOE loan and loan guarantee programs have been opposed by groups like SEIA and the National Venture Capital Association. *Since 2009, DOE loans have supported a projected 60,000 jobs.* [[CBO](#), 11/09; [DOE](#); [SEIA](#), 2/25/11; [NVCA](#), 11/16/10]
- **Republican Budget Slashes Economic Growth.** The Republican budget “*aggressively* slows job growth,” by slashing investments that spur the economy and drive demand. Instead of focusing on job creation, Republicans have doubled-down on their efforts to provide millionaires with tax breaks, end Medicare as we know it, and shift more of the burden to middle-class families. *The Republican budget would result in 4.1 million fewer jobs through 2014.* [[House Vote 151](#), 3/29/12; [Economic Policy Institute](#), 3/21/12]