



REPUBLICAN CONTRACT WITH AMERICA 2010

(except where noted, all of the following was written by Joseph Tatner)

(for updates, visit <http://www.tatner.com>)

As Republican Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and as citizens seeking election thereto, we propose to restore the bonds of trust between the American people and their elected representatives, following the United States Constitution as our guide and authority.

In this era of political spin, evasion and posturing, we offer instead this contract for national renewal and a written commitment with no fine print.

This year's election offers a chance to bring to the House and Senate a new spirit of leadership that will transform the way Congress works. We have seen too often in recent years an eager willingness to disregard the Constitution of the United States in the passing of laws without any legitimate basis or authority. We have also seen an alarming expansion of government power and governmental intrusion into the private sector with devastating results to our economy. We have witnessed new policies that are contrary to American principles with a complete disregard for the will of the People and the safety of our nation. Sadly, all too often members of our own Party have in the past abandoned our principles to join with those who would transform America in a fashion contrary to the doctrine of its Founders. This election offers an opportunity to restore genuine American governmental principles as developed by the Founding Fathers and a return of genuine power to the People whom we represent.

In the first Contract with America, Republicans fulfilled their promises and lived up to the contract they had agreed to sign. In later years, however, conservative principles were too often abandoned to the detriment of the nation. We pledge not only to live up to these principles and promises, but to never forget that we are elected to represent the people in our districts and to uphold the law of the land as established in the Constitution and as amended by due legal process in the following decades of our nation's history. History has shown that America's system of government and free commerce provides the greatest opportunity to generate wealth and prosperity for all, as long as the Federal Government does not overly restrict the ability of a free people to govern their own personal lives, property and businesses.

As elected leaders, we pledge to embrace the following major reforms, taking such action as is possible and appropriate to restore the faith and trust of the American people in their government:

FIRST, we will take our oath seriously to support and defend the United States Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, standing firm even against fellow elected leaders who disregard the Constitution in pursuit of their own political goals;

SECOND, in the interest of National Security and in accordance with the findings of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (aka the 9/11 Commission Report), we will no longer treat the War on Terror as a police action, but will protect our nation against those who have declared war upon the United States and its people, appointing military tribunals to try terrorists for crimes against humanity and properly supporting our military with adequate strategies, tactics, missions and materiel;

THIRD, we will restore genuine fiscal responsibility to the Congress by introducing and promoting a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution as well as legislation to repeal any bailout programs or other legislation deemed to be without legislative merit, unauthorized by the United States Constitution, or otherwise harmful to the economic welfare of the United States, as well as legislation to ensure any revenues raised are used solely for the purposes intended, to refuse federal funding for abortions, and to reduce or eliminate government bureaucracies wherever possible and reasonable;

FOURTH, we will reduce the tax burden on businesses and individuals to spur economic growth and employment, including measures to permanently restore the income tax reduction introduced in 2001, significantly reduce long term Capital Gains taxes, eliminate federal taxes on tips and inheritance, and reduce taxes on motor fuels;

FIFTH, we will protect the rights of all citizens and legal immigrants by enforcing our laws against illegal immigration, completing the border fence that was promised and which the American people have strongly supported, providing certificates of live birth rather than birth certificates to children born of non-citizen parents (in keeping with the clear parameters of the 14th Amendment), and to the greatest extent legally possible, we will refuse or restrict benefits to illegal residents;

SIXTH, we will pass laws to encourage, promote and protect genuine energy independence using the vast natural resources available within United States territory and jurisdictions, including but not limited to extraction from the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR), Bakken Formation and offshore drilling using modern environmentally safe and secure methods, and will block or repeal any taxes imposed on carbon emissions;

SEVENTH, given that every government has the right to arm and defend itself and the People of the United States are in fact the government thereof, and in keeping with the 2nd Amendment of the United States Constitution and the writings of the Founding Fathers as expressed in the Federalist Papers and other writings, the People of the United States who are not under felony conviction or other valid legislative restraint shall not have their right to keep or bear arms abridged or restricted for personal protection, sporting or any other legitimate purposes;
Respecting the judgment of our fellow citizens as we seek their mandate for reform, we hereby pledge our names to this Contract with America.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION
(based on the bill from the original Contract with America)

BALANCED BUDGET

Mr. XX introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on
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JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years after the date of its submission for ratification:

``Article --

``Section 1. Prior to each fiscal year, Congress shall, by law, adopt a statement of receipts and outlays for such fiscal year in which total outlays are not greater than total receipts. Congress may, by law, amend that statement provided revised outlays are not greater than revised receipts. Congress may provide in that statement for a specific excess of outlays over receipts by a vote directed solely to that subject in which three-fifths of the whole number of each House agree to such excess. Congress and the President shall ensure that actual outlays do not exceed the outlays set forth in such statement.

``Section 2. No bill to increase receipts shall become law unless approved by a three-fifths majority of the whole number of each House of Congress.

``Section 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President shall transmit to Congress a proposed statement of receipts and outlays for such fiscal year consistent with the provisions of this Article.

``Section 4. Congress may waive the provisions of this Article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of war is in effect. The provisions of this Article may be waived for any fiscal year in which the United States faces an imminent and serious military threat to national security and is so declared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the whole number of each House, which becomes law.

``Section 5. Total receipts shall include all receipts of the United States except those derived from borrowing and total outlays shall include all outlays of the United States except those for the repayment of debt principal.

``Section 6. The amount of Federal public debt as of the first day of the second fiscal year beginning after the ratification of this Article shall become a permanent limit on such debt and there shall be no increase in such amount unless three-fifths of the whole number of each House of Congress shall have passed a bill approving such increase and such bill has become law.

``Section 7. All votes taken by the House of Representatives or the Senate under this Article shall be rollcall votes.

``Section 8. Congress shall enforce and implement this Article by appropriate legislation.

``Section 9. This Article shall take effect for the fiscal year 2012 or for the second fiscal year beginning after its ratification, whichever is later.''

CLARIFICATION OF CITIZEN BIRTH

Mr. XX introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing a clarification of citizen birth amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years after the date of its submission for ratification:

``Article --

``Section 1. No child born of a mother who has entered the United States or any of its territories illegally and who has remained in the United States or any of its territories illegally up until and during the time of birth shall be considered a citizen of the United States, and such a child or children shall be endowed with none of the rights or obligations of United States citizenship.

``Section 2. No child born of a mother who has entered the United States legally solely for purposes of travel or tourism with no authorization to remain in the United States for any period of residency up until and during the time of birth shall be considered a citizen of the United States, and such a child or children shall be endowed with none of the rights or obligations of United States citizenship.

``Section 3. Non-citizen mothers who give birth within the United States under the circumstances proscribed by this amendment shall receive a certificate of live birth for the child or children born under such circumstances which does not endow said child or children with any of the benefits or obligations of a citizen of the United States, rather than a birth certificate which shall serve as proof of citizenship and entitlement to the benefits and obligations of a citizen of the United States and which shall be presented solely to mothers at the time of birth of each child or children who are so deemed to meet the requirements of citizenship at birth.

``Section 4. In the event that a non-citizen mother affected by this amendment due to her illegal status at the time of her giving birth to a non-citizen child or children should later amend her status such that she is admitted to the United States as a true and lawful citizen, any children who had previously been denied citizenship under this amendment shall receive lawful citizenship status at the same time as such legal citizenship status is conferred upon the mother.

``Section 5. The presence or absence of any child or children potentially affected by a change in citizenship status due to the mother's application for citizenship shall not be a factor of consideration in the decision to approve or deny such a mothers application for citizenship of the United States.

``Section 6. In the event that a mother is in fact a lawful citizen of the United States at the time she gives birth but is unable to provide proof of such legal citizenship at the time, the mother of any child or children born under such circumstances shall at the time of the birth or births be issued a certificate of live birth for each child born under such circumstances which does not entitle said child or children to any of the benefits or obligations of a citizen of the United States, until such time as the mother of such a child or children shall present to competent state or federal authority proof of her lawful and valid citizen status, at which point the child or children affected by this amendment shall be issued a valid birth certificate which shall serve as proof of citizenship and entitlement to the benefits and obligations of a citizen of the United States.

``Section 7. In the event that a non-citizen mother is lawfully married as recognized by competent state or local government authority to an American citizen of the United States who is in fact the father of the child or children born during the marriage, the child or children born will be considered citizens of the United States and shall be issued a birth certificate, but such citizenship of the child or children will not of itself automatically confer any citizenship or right to remain in the United States or any of its territories upon the mother outside of that which has already been granted or petitioned for through competent authority.”

``Section 8. In the event that a non-citizen mother is lawfully married as recognized by competent state or local government authority to an American citizen of the United States who is in fact the father of the child or children born during the marriage, but the marriage is later dissolved through divorce or annulment by competent authority prior to the mother becoming a citizen of the United States, the child or children born who are considered citizens of the United States shall have the right to remain within the United States under the care and support of the citizen father or other interested citizen family member, subject to the determination of competent local authorities and family courts regarding such issues as parental fitness and custody, but such citizenship of the child or children will not of itself automatically confer upon the non-citizen mother any right to remain in the United States or any of its territories upon the mother and such children may not be removed from the United States nor from any interested family members who are citizens of the United States by the non-citizen mother or non-citizen family members without proper petition and determination of child custody and residence issues as determined by competent local authority and also through competent federal authorities.”

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

PROPER USE OF FUNDS AND DEFICIT REDUCTION

[specific text under development]

Mr. XX introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Funds appropriated or revenues raised for a specific stated purpose shall not be used for any other purposes other than the original stated purpose and excess monies shall not be redirected to the general fund. In the event that a deficit or borrowed monies exist pertaining to the United States of America, all additional monies shall be used as payment to reduce or eliminate the nation's debt or loans, and in the event that no such national deficit or loans exist due to a balanced budget, the resulting surplus monies shall be returned to the taxpayers in the most expedient manner possible.

Regarding government agencies or departments other than the Department of Defense or uniformed military services, for those agencies that reduce their spending below authorized budgets within a year, 5% of the difference between the allocated budget and the actual lower expenditures shall be returned to the agencies or departments in question in the form of a monetary bonus to be divided up between the executives of the entities as predetermined by competent authority. Monies from any surplus resulting from reduced spending within the Department of Defense of uniformed military services shall be divided up among the members of the uniformed services as bonus pay in a single fiscal year end addition to their pay. In the event that a deficit or borrowed monies exist pertaining to the United States of America, all of the remaining 95% net savings shall be used as payment to reduce or eliminate the nation's debt or loans, and in the event that no such national deficit or loans exist due to a balanced budget, the resulting surplus monies shall be returned to the taxpayers in the most expedient and cost-effective manner possible.

[This bill would give incentives to all agencies of the government to REDUCE spending, replacing the current system of "use it or lose it," where management spends all leftover monies at the end of the year to prevent their budgets from being reduced the following year, resulting in great waste at taxpayer's expense. The proposed bill will also result in deficit and national debt reduction.]

PROPOSED LEGISLATION
TIP TAX REFORM

Mr. XX introduced the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on
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``Section 1. No monies received as a tip or gratuity for services rendered in the performance of duties of any service-related industry shall be considered as income for the purposes of federal taxation and shall not be subject to federal income tax reporting or taxation.

``Section 2. For the purposes of this legislation, a tip or gratuity is defined as any amount of monies given over and above a specific charge for legitimate services provided to a paying patron or customer of a service establishment or other business which is freely rendered by such a paying patron or customer with the express purpose of monetarily rewarding service providers.

``Section 3. For the purposes of this legislation, non-monetary gifts and other gifts or offerings not rendered at the time of receipt of services or at the time of payment for services shall be considered as gifts and will be subject to reporting and taxation under such regulations are appropriate."

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

RELATIVE AMENDMENTS

[specific text under development]

Mr. XX introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to
the Committee on XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

No amendment or tax or spending authorization shall be proposed for inclusion in any bill that is not specifically related to the general intent or purpose of the original proposed legislation.

[This bill would preclude adding unrelated earmarks or legislation to any proposed bills in an attempt to prevent pork barrel spending or attaching undesirable bills to the defense budget, etc.]

PROPOSED LEGISLATION
SECOND AMENDMENT AFFIRMATION ACT

Mr. XX introduced the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on
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``Section 1. Whereas the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution does clearly state that “the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed,” and whereas the Founding Fathers did clearly explain in their fundamental documents known collectively as the Federalist Papers that this right is given as a protection against the unlawful use of force by either federal or state governments internally or foreign nations and threats externally, and whereas this fundamental right was deemed by the framers of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights as a right inherent and integral to the people and their role in government, and whereas under the American system it is the people who are considered to be the government and every government has the right to arm itself, we the duly-elected representatives of the people do hereby affirm the individual right of all peaceable American citizens not convicted of a felony to keep and bear arms.

``Section 2. In keeping with prior Supreme Court Rulings *Murdock vs. Pennsylvania*, 319 US 105 and *Follett vs. Town of McCormick*, S.C., 321 U.S. 573, no federal, state or local authority shall have the ability to restrict or limit the right to keep and bear arms for any peaceable use, nor shall they implement any tax, fee, licensing or registration requirements on any firearm.

``Section 3. For the purposes of this legislation, a firearm is defined as any weapon capable of deadly force through expelling or propelling one or more projectiles by the action of an explosive or combustible propellant, whether loaded or unloaded, and whether inoperable but that can readily be rendered operable, that can be readily carried by a single person for peaceable use.

``Section 4. For the purposes of this legislation, nothing contained herein shall be considered to apply to any person convicted by proper state, local or federal authority of a felony crime, unless such crime shall be pardoned by competent authority, at which point all rights affirmed under this legislation shall be immediately restored without question.

``Section 5. The right to keep and bear arms for any legitimate peaceable purposes shall remain inviolate in any home or domicile at the sole discretion of the homeowner or occupant.

``Section 6. For the purposes of this legislation, legitimate peaceable purposes for possession of a firearm or firearms shall include but not be limited to defense, sport, training, repair, maintenance, or acquisition of firearms for historical or personal collections.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Introduce legislation to restore the Glass-Steagall that split commercial and investment banking to prevent a financial problem in one area from affecting the entire banking system.

Also restore the Uptick Rule to prevent predatory companies from deliberately fraudulently devaluating the stock prices of healthy companies to take them over.

Repeal any and all bailouts or legislation that has given the federal government economic control over private businesses.

Repeal the Community Reinvestment Act and privatize Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to restore solvency to the housing market without risk to federal funds received from the taxpayers.

[Sponsored by Congressman Ron Paul & supported by Joseph Tatner]

H.R. 1207

A BILL

To amend title 31, United States Code, to reform the manner in which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System is audited by the Comptroller General of the United States and the manner in which such audits are reported, and for other purposes.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. AUDIT REFORM AND TRANSPARENCY FOR THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL. – Subsection (b) of section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking all after “shall audit an agency” and inserting a period.

(b) AUDIT. – Section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) AUDIT AND REPORT OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM. -

“(1) IN GENERAL. – The audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks under subsection (b) shall be completed before the end of 2010.

“(2) REPORT -

“(A) REQUIRED. – A report on the audit referred to in paragraph (1) shall be submitted by the Comptroller General to the Congress before the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date on which such audit is completed and made available to the Speaker of the House, the majority and minority leaders of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the committee and each sub-committee of jurisdiction in the House of Representatives and the Senate, and any other Member of Congress who requests it.

“(B) CONTENTS. – The report under subparagraph (A) shall include a detailed description of the findings and conclusion of the Comptroller General with respect to the audit that is the subject of the report, together with such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Comptroller General may determine to be appropriate.”.

Sponsor

Rep. Ronald Paul [R-TX]

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