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REPORT TO AMERICAN TAXPAYERS

From: The National Tax Limitation Committee, Lewis K. Uhler, President

Subject: SO THERE'S NOT A DIME'S WORTH OF DIFFERENCE?

When voters went to the polls in November 2006 and chastened a number of Republican House Members by electing Democrats to replace them, many thought “there’s not a dime’s worth of difference.” They had been told by House Democrat campaign leader Rahm Emanuel, and others, that the “new” Democrats were fiscally reliable moderates who could be counted on to control government spending and restore financial order in Washington.

The National Tax Limitation Committee (NTLC) decided to test this claim by calculating the scores of the new Democrats on their fiscal-issue votes thus far in the 110th Congress and to compare them with the 109th Congress voting records of the Republicans they replaced. (NTLC, which has scored Congress on taxpayer issues for over 22 years, has the longest-standing congressional scorecard of any conservative taxpayer organization in America.) NTLC used its standard selection process, choosing votes that fairly represent the attitude and commitment of the Members toward taxpayer issues and fiscal restraint generally.

The jury has returned its verdict – and it is clear that voters have been hoodwinked and are the victims of a grand political hoax. The new Democrats have solidly endorsed the policies of Nancy Pelosi and the other liberal House leaders. Not only have most new Democrats abandoned any semblance of fiscal responsibility, but Congress and people across the Nation have suffered the loss of the cumulative pro-taxpayer voting records of those Republicans they have displaced.

The 30 congressional districts which switched from Republican representation to Democrat as a result of the November '06 election have given Democrats clear control of the House and a death grip on tax and spending policy. And the new Members have not

voted like moderates but have emulated the old-line liberals, with many new Members garnering “zero” scores and most earning “F” grades. (See scores below)

Perhaps most damaging to the Nation is the fact that the cumulative pro-taxpayer score of the replaced Republicans was a total of 1982 points during the 109th Congress, while the cumulative pro-taxpayer scores of the replacement Democrats thus far in the 110th Congress has been a meager 170 points, a ratio favoring the Republicans of more than 10 to one. (See below)

It is clear that there has been far more than a dime’s worth of difference to our Nation’s fiscal future in the wake of the November ’06 congressional massacre. It is time for calm, detached reflection about how to best protect taxpayer interests in future congressional elections.

STATE	DISTRICT	NEW	110th CONGRESS	REPLACED	109th CONGRESS
AZ	5TH	MITCHELL	17%	HAYWORTH	94%
	8TH	GIFFORDS	5%	KOLBE	65%
CA	11TH	McNERNEY	5%	POMBO	68%
CO	7TH	PEARLNUTTER	0%	BEAUPREZ	97%
CT	2ND	COURTNEY	0%	SIMMONS	36%
	5TH	MURPHY	5%	JOHNSON	55%
FL	16TH	MAHONEY	5%	FOLEY	56%
	22ND	KLEIN	0%	SHAW	61%
IA	1ST	BRALEY	9%	NUSSLE	70%
	2ND	LOEBSACK	0%	LEACH	30%
IN	2ND	DONNELLY	13%	CHOCOLA	91%
	8TH	ELLSWORTH	13%	HOSTETTLER	82%
	9TH	HILL	9%	SODREL	80%
KS	2ND	BOYDA	13%	RYAN	94%
KY	3RD	YARMUTH	0%	NORTHRUP	72%
MN	1ST	WALTZ	0%	GUTKNECHT	91%
NC	11TH	SHULER	9%	TAYLOR	80%
NH	1ST	SHEA-PORTER	0%	BRADLEY	53%
	2ND	HODES	0%	BASS	63%
NY	19TH	HALL	0%	KELLY	59%
	20TH	GILLIBRAND	5%	SWEENEY	52%
	24TH	ARCURI	0%	BOEHLERT	36%
OH	18TH	SPACE	5%	NEY	59%
PA	4TH	ALATMIRE	0%	HART	65%
	7TH	SESTAK	0%	WALDEN	46%
	8TH	MURPHY, P.	5%	FRITZPATRICK	44%
	10TH	CARNEY	9%	SHERWOOD	59%
TX	22ND	LAMPSON	34%	DeLAY	85%
	23RD	RODRIGUEZ	9%	BONILLA	71%
WI	8TH	KAGEN	0%	GREEN	68%
Cumulative scores (points)			170	1982	

*percentage of votes favorable to taxpayers

FIRST SESSION – 110th CONGRESS

Votes used to make score calculations for new Members in the 110th (current) Congress

H.R. 6 (Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #40. Increases oil and gas company taxes \$7.6 billion. Yeas 264/Nays 163. Vote NO.

H.R. 800 (Employee “Free Choice” Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #118. Eliminates secret ballots for workers during union organizing. Yeas 241/Nays 185. Vote NO.

H.C.R. 99 (budget revision). Roll Call Vote #212. Increases marginal tax rates, cuts the child tax credit. Yeas 216/Nays 210. Vote NO.

H.R. 1905 (District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote 231. Makes DC a congressional district. Yeas 241/Nays 177. Vote NO.

H.R. 1906. Roll Call Vote #232. Tax increase to pay for new congressional seats. Yeas 216/Nays 210. Vote NO.

H.R. 1257 (Shareholder Vote on Executive Compensation Act). Roll Call Vote #244. Potential government control of executive compensation. Yeas 269/Nays 134. Vote NO.

H.R. 2419. (Farm Bill Extension Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #756. Over 900 pages and billions of dollars in pork. Yeas 231/Nays 191. Vote NO.

H.R. 2831 (Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #768. Increases employer exposure and costs with respect to discrimination lawsuits. Yeas 225/Nays 199. Vote NO.

H.R. 2776. (Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #835. Reduces tax incentives for domestic gas and oil production. Yeas 221/Nays 189. Vote NO.

H.R. 3121 (Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #921. Provides federal government subsidy for flood insurance. Yeas 263/Nays 146. Vote NO.

H.R. 3056 (Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #960. Repeals IRS authority to cut costs through use of private debt collection agencies. Yeas 232/Nays 173. Vote NO.

H.R. 976 (Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 – SCHIP). Roll Call Vote #976. Substantial decreases in program cuts. Yeas 273/Nays 156. Vote NO.

H.R. 435 (ATM Relief Act of 2007). Roll Call Vote #1153. Imposes \$55 billion in taxes over 10 years to offset a one-year “patch” of the Alternative Minimum Tax. Yeas 226/Nays 193. Vote NO.

SECOND SESSION – 110th CONGRESS

H.R. 2419. Veto override. “Farm Bill.” Roll Call Vote #346. Yeas 316/Nays 108. Vote NO.

H.R. 3021. (21st Century Green High-Performing Public Schools Facility Act). Roll Call Vote #379. New \$20 billion “green” school construction program. Yeas 250/Nays 164. Vote NO.

H.R. 6003. (Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008). Roll Call Vote #400. New \$15 billion Amtrak subsidy. Yeas 311/Nays 104. Vote NO.

H.R. 2016. (National Landscape Conservation System Act). Roll Call Vote #174. Halts mining and other economic activities on 26 million acres of taxpayer-owned federal land. Yeas 278/Nays 140. Vote NO.

H.R. 5719. (Taxpayer Assistance and Simplification Act of 2008). Roll Call Vote #190. Further restrictions on less costly health savings accounts. Yeas 238/Nays 179. Vote NO.

H.R. 5818. (Neighborhood Stabilization Act of 2008). Roll Call Vote #299. Creates new \$15 billion program of grants/loans to local governments and private non-profits. Yeas 239/Nays 188. Vote NO.

H.R. 2768. (S-Miner Act). Roll Call Vote #10. Imposes unfunded mandates on the mining industry. Yeas 219/Nays 199. Vote NO.

H.R. 3963. (SCHIPS veto override). Roll Call Vote #22. Yeas 260/Nays 152. Vote NO.

H.R. 5351. (Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008). Roll Call Vote #84. \$17 billion in tax increases over 11 years. Yeas 236/Nays 182. Vote NO.

H.C.R. 312. Revising congressional budget for US Government for FY 2008, establishing congressional budget for FY 2009 and budgetary levels for 2010 through 20123. Roll Call Vote #141. A vote to increase the debt ceiling with no moratorium on earmarks. Yeas 212/Nays 207. Vote NO.