

After Four Months, House Democrats Have a Strong Record of Passing Legislation That Matters to the American People

President Bush Only Has Veto Threats, While Republicans Obstruct the People's Business

In only four months, House Democrats have passed over 30 bills, most of which enjoyed broad, bipartisan support.



Making America Safer

- House Democrats passed several pieces of legislation that will make our nation safer: implementing the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, scrutinizing foreign investment in key infrastructure, and increasing planning and funding to protect mass transit systems.
- House Democrats are ensuring that our nation's veterans have the best health care possible through increased funding for military and veterans health care, and the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act, which responded to the Walter Reed scandal.



Growing Our Economy

- House Democrats passed the first increase in the minimum wage in almost a decade by a bipartisan vote of 315-116.
- House Democrats have made the Innovation Agenda a priority, passing five bills that will ensure that the U.S. remains competitive in the 21st century global economy.
- House Democrats are actively working to combat record gas prices by holding seven hearings between now and Memorial Day on this pressing issue.
- House Democrats are crafting an Independence Day Energy Package.



Caring for Our Children and Family

- House Democrats are working to increase access to education for all ages, from expanding the Head Start program to cutting interest rates on student loans for college.
- House Democrats passed legislation to ensure affordable health care by negotiating drug prices for Medicare recipients, and to increase potential life-saving embryonic stem cell research.
- House Democrats protected the rights of middle-class workers by passing the Employee Free Choice Act.
- House Democrats are helping recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast with two bills that will speed up the rebuilding of homes.



Preserving Our Planet

- House Democrats are increasing investment in renewable fuels by repealing subsidies given to Big Oil and instead investing those funds into alternative energy sources, and through increased investment in getting biofuels quickly and affordably to consumers.
- House Democrats have created a Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, and various committees have already held more than two dozen hearings on climate change.



Restoring Accountability

- House Democrats are cleaning up the way business is done in Washington, enacting ethics reform as our first order of business, denying pensions to Members convicted of certain federal offenses, and strengthening oversight of the Page program.
- House Democrats passed five bills that will make government more accountable and transparent to Americans, including Whistleblower Protections and limits on no-bid contracts.

Instead of Working With Congress President Bush Offers Veto Threats

While the Democratic-led House is listening to the American people and passing their priorities, the President is ignoring the will of the people by threatening to veto popular measures that passed the House with bipartisan support. The President's veto threats are slowing down progress in the Senate and preventing important legislation from becoming law and improving the lives of Americans.

The President has threatened to veto:

- **Stem Cell Research.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 253-174; supported by 70 percent of the American public.
- **Clean Water Bill.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 303-108.
- **Rail and Mass Transit Security.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 299-124.
- **Whistleblower Protection.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 331-94.
- **Hate Crimes Prevention.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 237-180.
- **Free Choice for Employees.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 241-185.
- **D.C. Voting Rights.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 241-177.
- **Medicare Drug Price Negotiation.** Passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 255-175; supported by 92 percent of the American public.

House Democrats Are Passing Legislation, Conducting Necessary Oversight

House Democrats have a strong record of accomplishment in just four months in office, increasing the number of bills passed, laws enacted, time in session, and number of oversight hearings. It is ironic that most criticism of House Democrats' accomplishments comes from the 'Do-Nothing' Republicans, who at this point in the last Congress had only achieved a fraction of what Democrats have.

	109 th Congress, Jan. – Apr.	110 th Congress, Jan. – Apr.
Bills and joint resolutions passed	72*	165
Public laws enacted	10	16
Roll Call Votes	150	269
Days in Session	40	59
Oversight Hearings – Full committee and subcommittee	135** (through 3/31/05)	264 (through 3/31/07)

* All numbers, except oversight hearings, from CRS

** Oversight hearings from New York Times