



REPUBLICANS ARE OUT-OF-TOUCH WITH AMERICA'S PRIORITIES

This week, Republicans will push several bills designed to score political points, while ignoring most Americans' priorities. In contrast, Democrats share Americans' priorities and are fighting to take our country in a new direction.

Republicans Push "Bills to Nowhere":

Pledge, Marriage Bills Won't Become Law, While Stem Cell Research Faces Veto

- "The Middle East may be careening toward all-out war, Iraq may continue to boil and oil prices may be nearing record highs, but Congress has social policy -- and a hefty dose of political calculation -- on its mind this week." [Washington Post, 7/18/06]
- "The House is scheduled to consider a proposed constitutional amendment that would bar gay marriage — even though the measure already has failed in the Senate and is almost certain to do the same in the House...Forty-five states have enacted either constitutional or statutory bans on gay marriage." [CQ, 7/14/06]
- "The 'Pledge Protection Act' is also not a sure thing. The measure failed to clear the House Judiciary Committee late last month, when Rep. Bob Inglis, R-S.C., joined Democrats to oppose it, resulting in a tie vote. Also, court-stripping bills in general have a poor track record getting through Congress." [CongressDaily, 7/17/06]
- "They want to move this along quickly for political reasons," said Rep. Michael N. Castle... "They understand there is huge acceptance of this," Castle said, referring to embryonic stem cell research, "and they are just appealing to a small minority in opposition." [LA Times, 7/17/06]

Democrats Share the American People's Priorities

AMERICA'S PRIORITIES	DEMOCRATIC AGENDA	REPUBLICAN AGENDA
<p>What Americans Say Are Their Most Important Issues [Washington Post-ABC News, 6/26/07]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iraq (24%) • Economy (23%) • Health Care (14%) • Immigration (13%) • Gas Prices (9%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democrats' Real Security Agenda: Enact 9/11 Comm. recommendations, make 2006 a year of transition in Iraq • Good paying jobs here at home, start by raising the minimum wage and ending outsourcing subsidies • Affordable health care, begin by fixing the prescription drug law so it serves seniors, not HMOs and pharmaceutical companies • Support a bipartisan, comprehensive immigration and border security bill • Energize America by ending dependence on foreign oil, promoting alternatives 	<p>Republicans have made their priority a "Values Agenda," which addresses none of the issues Americans list as most important to them and centers on bills that are widely acknowledged as unlikely to become law.</p>