

Democrats = Good Things

Talking points for relational networking

Turns out there's lots to crow about.

Despite the unrelenting media addiction to bad news about Democrats, there's a lot more to be glad about than we're being led to believe.

Under Biden's leadership things are getting better.

- Unemployment is down to 4.8%; more than six million jobs have been created since January + wages are up an average of \$2 an hour
- At least 80 percent of American adults – including 98 percent of those older than 65 – have had a least one corona virus vaccination. Among those age 12 + older, 78 percent have had at least one shot.
- This administration approved + distributed vaccines for children as young as five.
- The stock market continues at record highs.

\$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan made a huge difference.

- Third round of stimulus checks (bringing the total number of Covid relief checks to \$478 billion since inception in 3/2020)
- \$125 billion to public schools to return to in-person learning
- Major increase in the child tax credit that cut child poverty in half
- \$15 billion to rural hospitals + health care providers
- Over \$350 billion to the states + local governments to help them recover from the effects of the pandemic + to support the restoration of a stable + thriving economy
- Over \$10 billion to states + territories for capital infrastructure like Broadband, roads + bridges, etc.
- Over \$10 billion to states + territories to protect vulnerable homeowners from dislocation, covering mortgage payments + alleviating foreclosures
- \$21.6 billion in rental assistance to alleviate evictions
- \$10 billion for small business expansion initiatives, increased unemployment benefits, payroll tax credits etc.

Biden has undone lots of awful Trump stuff too.

- Vacated Trump's delays in reducing methane emissions from landfills
- Vacated Trump's rule to limit information the EPA could consider in setting new air pollution standards
- Vacated Trump's rule that blocked emissions standards for greenhouse gases
- Restored protections for Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts National Monuments
- Terminated work on the Keystone XL pipeline
- Replenished the State Department hollowed out by Trump
- Returned land taken from multiple Texas families by eminent domain for purposes of building the wall
- Restored relationships Trump had destroyed with NATO allies (South Korea, Canada, Israel, Mexico)
- Restored diplomatic messaging with non-ally countries (Russia, Saudi Arabia, North Korea, China)

On Nov.15 Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Job Act with bi-partisan support in both Houses.

- Authorizes \$1.2 trillion in total spending, including \$550 billion of new spending on hard infrastructure
- Upgrades the power infrastructure with thousands of miles of new, resilient transmission lines for expansion of renewables and clean energy while lowering costs + R&D for cutting-edge clean energy technologies
- Eliminates lead service pipes + expands access to clean drinking water for households, businesses, schools + childcare centers from rural areas to struggling cities
- Addresses climate change as it pertains to surface transportation.

Revises Buy America procurement procedures for highways, mass transit + rail

Implements new safety requirements for all modes of transportation

- Directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish a program to ensure the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund
- Authorizes lots of new spending for roads/bridges, rail (includes the largest investment in passenger rail since Amtrak's creation 50 years ago), expansion of public transit, upgrading of airports + control towers, power lines, clean energy, broadband to low-income communities, protection from extreme weather events especially those that most impact people of color, cleanup of superfund sites including reclaiming abandoned mines + capping orphaned oil + gas wells, mitigating drought conditions, expanding network of electric vehicle charging stations, + LOTS more

More good news...

- In addition, Biden has nominated + the Senate has approved 58 Federal judges. That's the most confirmations in a president's first term since the Nixon administration.
- Biden is nominating + getting many confirmed public defenders, civil rights defenders, + non-corporate attorneys—many are people of color—in an unprecedented effort to make the judiciary look like America

The Department of Justice filed suit against the Texas Senate Bill 8 that bans most abortions + empowers citizens to sue anyone deemed to aid or abet the practice of abortions.

- The Department of Justice filed suit against Texas regarding its discriminatory re-districting plan.

And, as soon as the Build Back Better act passes, billions more will be spent to improve the lives of everyone living in this country.

"The Democrats are a force for good—delivering on promises to the American people as never before. [Biden's] focus is on ordinary Americans rather than the wealthy who have dominated policy making since 1981." R. HUBBELL

Now get talking!