



WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

October 10, 2014

President Obama on the Millennial Generation

On Thursday's visit to California, President Obama addressed the importance of millennials, the generation that "will shape our economy for decades to come." Coming of age during the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, millennials are rebuilding the economy and strengthening America's middle class. Millennials are now the largest and most diverse generation in the United States, valuing technology, creativity, and innovation.



Although more millennials are going to college, rising tuition leaves many with an ever-increasing share of the student loan debt burden. By expanding access to higher education through student loan reform, millennials can get the training they need for today's and tomorrow's jobs. The President emphasized the importance of providing every child with a complete and competitive education to ensure they become productive members of the American economy.

President Obama also highlighted the importance of protecting the millennial middle-class. With more young people moving into cities and paying rent, it is important to keep interest rates low to ensure that middle-class Americans can succeed in American cities. The President also discussed the need for mortgage lending reforms to make it easier for middle-class Americans to buy their own homes. Through reforms like these, as well as expanding access to healthcare through the Affordable Care Act and protecting American consumers from another crash on Wall Street, we can protect and ensure the future of the millennial generation.

With President Obama releasing his [Agenda for Creating Economic Opportunity with Millennials](#) this week, it's worth looking at [Fusion's Massive Millennial Poll](#), which makes some important points.

- Heading into the midterm election, Democrats are favored among millennials by 15 points
- Millennials favor Democrats on immigration by 19 points, and Democrats passed bi-partisan immigration reform in the Senate.
- 69% say that they're concerned about paying off their debt, and Democrats have taken action to reduce the burden of student loans.
- 59% favor implementation of the Affordable Care Act.
- 68% support marriage equality and Democrats not only support it, but support protections against discrimination in the workplace.

You can find the complete poll [here](#).

All of this helps to underscore why the agenda the President is laying out is crucial for young Americans. America's millennials want a fair shot at success in today's economy, and want leaders who will have their backs. The President and Democrats are working to make higher education more affordable, and make the burden of debt easier for America's 40 million student loan borrowers. Democrats are working to support innovation and create opportunity with good-paying middle class jobs. Democrats have made healthcare more affordable and accessible to provide young Americans with the support they need to start their careers

With the President's important economic agenda and Democrats' continued record of fighting for their interests, it remains clear why millennials stand with Democrats in election after election.

10/10: NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE DAY

NEARLY
3 out of 4
AMERICANS

SUPPORT RAISING THE
MINIMUM WAGE TO

\$10.10

In his State of the Union address last year, President Obama called on Congress to raise the national minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 an hour, which would increase earnings for more than 28 million workers across the country. Today, on 10/10, National Minimum Wage Day, Americans are calling again for Congress to raise the wage.

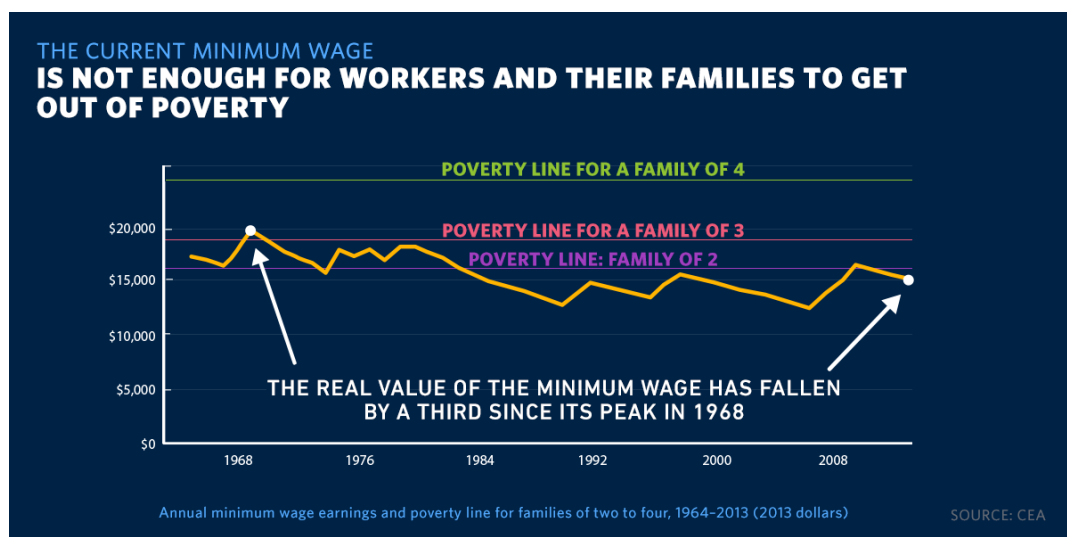
Three out of every four Americans support raising the minimum wage, and although Congressional Republicans have continued to block the President's proposal, numerous state legislatures, mayors, and city councils have raised wages for their residents and employees. Thanks to their efforts, 7 million workers will see their wages increase by 2017 – but more can be done.

The current minimum wage has remained unchanged for five years, while the cost of food, utilities, and other essentials has increased. Raising the minimum wage would directly benefit millions of Americans, and would strengthen the economy as a whole. 3.6 million people would be able to come off of food stamps. 19 million workers from all types of households would see their wages increase, and 28 million Americans would benefit from a higher minimum wage.

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE:

- 1 SPEEDS ECONOMIC GROWTH
- 2 CREATES MORE JOBS
- 3 PUTS MONEY BACK INTO THE ECONOMY

No one who works full time in America should have to live below the poverty line. It is time to give hard working Americans the raise they deserve.



[DNC Chair Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz's Statement on Supreme Court Decision on Marriage Equality Cases](#)

On Monday, the United States Supreme Court declined to take up appeals from five states seeking to prohibit gay marriages. In response, DNC Chair Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz released the following statement:

"Today's action by the Supreme Court continues the steady march of progress towards equality. In recent years, we have seen the end of the discriminatory Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and last year the Supreme Court struck down DOMA. This decision brings marriage equality to couples in Indiana, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin. It clears the way for same sex couples in Colorado, Kansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia, and Wyoming as well.

"While this is a significant step forward for the LGBT community, there is considerable work that remains to be done. Unfortunately, marriage equality is still denied to same sex couples in several states, and some LGBT workers can still face discrimination in the workplace based on who they are or who they love. The Democratic Party is committed to ensuring that our nation continues to move in the right direction on LGBT equality."

Congratulations,
IDAHO & NEVADA!

**A FEDERAL APPEALS COURT JUST
STRUCK DOWN THE STATES'
SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BANS.**

[Scott Walker's gonna need a longer ad](#)

[80 words.](#)

That's how many words Scott Walker thought it would take to whitewash a career of infringing on women's health care in Wisconsin. But none of those words mean a thing when compared to his record.

Here are just four of the outright falsehoods in Walker's new ad:

1. While Walker claims to leave health care choices to **"a woman and her doctor,"** the Governor signed a law the Wisconsin Medical Society expressly said ["directly infringes on the special and private relationship between the patient and physician"](#) and made it [illegal for doctors and nurses to use technology to give women living in rural areas access to their medical options.](#)
2. While Walker claims to want to give women **"more information for a woman considering her options,"** as an Assemblyman he authored legislation that would have made it a crime for public health officials to give Wisconsin women any information about terminating a pregnancy.
3. While Walker claims to want to **"protect the health and safety of all Wisconsin citizens"** he has worked to make it more difficult for women to obtain the prescriptions that keep them healthy, like birth control.
4. While Walker claims **"reasonable people can disagree on this issue"** he hasn't tolerated any disagreement and in fact [eliminated funding for women's health clinics, resulting in the closure of five clinics that didn't even provide abortion services.](#) Instead those clinics offered things like birth control, sexually transmitted disease testing, treatment, pregnancy tests, annual exams and breast cancer screenings to thousands of Wisconsin women each year.

Scott Walker's gonna need a longer ad.

Chris Christie is at it again...in Pennsylvania

Chris Christie is at it again, campaigning for failed Republican Governors across the country instead of taking care of his own economic mess at home.

Today Christie is in Pennsylvania campaigning with Tom Corbett. Apparently Corbett didn't get the memo that campaigning with a Governor who has a failed economic record just as bad as his own, is not very helpful. It's no wonder Corbett is down 17 points among likely voters – 55 percent to 38 percent – in the latest [Quinnipiac University poll](#).

"Christie and Corbett have led their states off a fiscal cliff – giving major tax breaks to corporations while facing major budget shortfalls and credit downgrades. It's clear that they've prioritized the well-being of big corporations and business interests over the financial well-being of their states and constituents," said DNC Press Secretary Michael Czin.

ECONOMIC & FISCAL FAILURES: CHRISTIE AND CORBETT BY THE NUMBERS

Job Growth

- **47th** – Since Corbett took office in January 2011, Pennsylvania has ranked 47th in job creation. [Keystone Research Center, [10/7/14](#)]
- **42nd** – In that same time period, New Jersey ranked 42nd in job creation. [Keystone Research Center, [10/7/14](#)]

Huge Corporate Tax Breaks

- **\$3.9 billion** – In Pennsylvania, Corbett gives away over \$3.9 billion a year in corporate tax breaks. [Washington Post [01/30/14](#)]
- **\$4 billion** – Under Christie, New Jersey has given away over \$4 billion in corporate tax breaks and grants. [Bloomberg, [6/11/14](#)]

Massive Shortfalls

- **Over \$1.4 billion** – Under Corbett, Pennsylvania faced a potential two-year budget shortfall of over \$1.4 billion. [Patriot News, [6/16/14](#)]
- **\$1.5 billion** – Thanks to Christie's overly rosy revenue projections, New Jersey faced a \$1.5 billion budget shortfall last fiscal year. [Star-Ledger, [9/10/14](#)]

Credit Downgrades

- **5** – Under Corbett, Pennsylvania's credit rating has been downgraded five times by major credit agencies. [Associated Press, [9/26/14](#)]
- **8** – Under Christie, New Jersey's credit rating has been downgraded a record-setting eight times by the major credit agencies, hurting New Jersey's ability to borrow and invest in critical projects. [Star-Ledger, [9/10/14](#)]

'Worst' in the Region

- **Slowest pace of job growth** – Under Corbett, Pennsylvania has the slowest pace of job growth among neighboring states. [Keystone Research Center, [10/7/14](#)]
- **Highest unemployment** – As of August 2014, New Jersey's unemployment rate was half a percent higher than the nation's and was tied for the highest in the region. [Washington Post, [9/5/14](#); Bureau of Labor Statistics, Accessed on 10/3/14]

In the States

- On Monday the Texas Democratic Party released a statement denouncing Senator Ted Cruz' bigoted response to the Supreme Court decision expanding marriage equality to thousands of Americans. "Senator Ted Cruz is woefully out of touch with Texas and America. His pledge to introduce a constitutional amendment is simply cheap political tricks and pandering. There is no decency in earning political points by disenfranchising Texans," said Texas Democratic Party Chairman Gilberto Hinojosa. "In Texas, the courts ruled in favor of the LGBTQ community, despite the bigotry and delusions of our junior Senator. The Texas Democratic Party believes that everyone should have the right to marry who they love." You can read the full statement [here](#).
- On Tuesday the Democratic Party of Virginia issued a statement on the Eastern District Court of Virginia's Redistricting Ruling. "The Democratic Party of Virginia applauds the decision of the Eastern District Court to demand a fair, nonpartisan map for Virginia's Congressional districts. The fundamental American right to fair and equal representation should never be diluted by political meddling," said Executive Director Robert Dempsey. "Speaker Howell and Leader Norment need to do what's best for the Commonwealth and produce more compact districts that ensure all Virginians have the representation they deserve." Read the complete statement [here](#).
- The Connecticut Democratic Party on Tuesday released a statement illustrating the Connecticut Republican Party's track record of violating campaign finance laws and skirting fundraising regulations. "Tom Foley, the GOP candidate for governor, paid a \$16,000 fine for willfully violating campaign finance rules, yet the state GOP wants to talk about campaign violations?" asked Democratic Party spokesman Devon Puglia. "Connecticut Republicans have multiple investigations and complaints pending, and this simply demonstrates they are reaching new heights of hypocrisy." You can find the complete statement [here](#).
- The Ohio Democratic Party issued a statement Monday in response to Dave Yost's campaign filing a complaint about an ad released by John Patrick Carney's campaign. "Dave Yost is a self-proclaimed 'lightweight' when it comes to standing up to his Republican Party bosses, which is why he refused to do a financial audit of JobsOhio, and failed to prevent horribly gerrymandered districts from being approved on the Apportionment Board," said Ohio Democratic Party Chairman Chris Redfern. "It's time for Dave Yost and the Ohio Republican Party to stop wasting the time of Ohio's television stations and the Ohio Elections Commission with their frivolous complaints against John Patrick Carney's campaign for State Auditor." Read the full statement [here](#).
- As Governor Rick Scott campaigns with Governor Chris Christie, the Florida Democratic Party released a statement Wednesday highlighting the ways that both governors have failed the people they were elected to serve. "They say birds of a feather flock together, and that certainly is true with Rick Scott and Chris Christie — two scandal-plagued governors who have failed women, families, and the middle class every step of the way," said Florida Democratic Party Chair Allison Tant. "From opposing equal pay for women to mocking the concept of allowing hardworking people to earn a living wage, Scott and Christie could not be more out of touch with the middle class, and their dismal records reflect that reality." Read the full statement [here](#).
- On Sunday the Massachusetts Democratic Party issued a press release reminding voters about Republican Charlie Baker's history on homelessness. "Republican Baker has flip-flopped from the infamous position he took in 2010 where he actually stood in front of the Pine Street Inn in the South End and proposed that people who go to homeless shelters should have to prove residency before entering," said Coordinated Campaign Chair Ben Downing. "This is just another example of Republican Baker willing to say whatever he thinks will get him elected, but voters know better." Read the full statement [here](#).