

NETWORK Connection

PEOPLE LOBBYING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE • FIRST QUARTER 2010

Includes 2009 Voting Record
and Board Election Ballot

Civility and the Common Good

dear members

We have finished the first session of the 111th Congress with the anguished struggle over healthcare. I know that many of you are as tired of the partisan wrangle as we are! But in the midst of the morass of bickering there were a couple of bright spots for us.

We provided you, our members, with the phone number and e-advocacy tool for more than ten thousand messages to Congress about what really matters in this healthcare reform. We were able to get a letter into the hands of Senate negotiators, outlining some of our key positions just as talks were breaking down. We helped them find a way through. We are being heard.

All of this activity is made possible by the **CAPITOL CAMPAIGN** that we launched in Spring '09. This is not about raising money for a building, but rather raising money to work in the Capitol to renew the foundation of our nation. You have made all the difference in this project. Because of you, our voice continues. Because of you, we are making progress. We are deeply grateful for your support and urge you to continue in 2010! THANK YOU!

Simone Campbell, SSS

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NOTE TO ALL NETWORK MEMBERS:



Be sure to vote for new members of NETWORK's Board of Directors.

*Ballots can be found on the back page and must be postmarked by **March 15, 2010**.*

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Learn more at www.networklobby.org
(click on NETWORK Capitol Campaign).

Use the envelope in the middle of this magazine to send a contribution. (Write "Capitol Campaign" on the envelope.)

Spread the word so others can invest in our mission of justice!

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A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

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Cover: Pediment sculpture from U.S. Capitol (House side), "Apotheosis of Democracy," depicts Peace protecting the youthful winged figure of Genius. Photo by Joseph C. Justice, Jr.

Starting with this issue, the *Connection* will be published quarterly instead of every two months. We will also send out issue updates four times a year. Please see page 3 for more information.

Changes

BY SIMONE CAMPBELL, SSS

SHAWN HARRIS



This issue of *Connection* contains the voting record for the first session of the 111th Congress. It has been an intense year of both great change and small shifts. There have been so many votes this year that it was difficult to decide which to include. In fact, as we are putting this issue together, the healthcare debate is still raging in the Senate.

Looking back over the year, I see one shift that has worried me. In January 2009, there was a great expression of bipartisanship, of working together for the American people. But since then there has been a shift from concerns about policies to strictly the political game. Members of Congress have gotten into their separate corners, and each side is trying to paint the other as uninterested in the needs of the people. The country is suffering because the focus is not on governing, but rather on the 2010 election and “scoring points.”

I had thought that after the 2008 election a message had been sent that “We the People” were not going to stand for this anymore. We were going to demand that our leaders address the issues of our time and work for 21st century solutions. But this apparently was not to be. This year has confirmed that “We the People” still have a lot of work to do.

To be more effective in this rapidly changing environment, we are making some changes. We realized that many of you, our members, often see this magazine and get your news about the Hill weeks after the update is written. We know that many of you utilize our e-advocacy tools and receive up-to-the-minute information in our weekly or targeted alert system. At the same time, we have been examining ways that we can “go green” here at NETWORK and shrink

our carbon footprint. And, of course, in these challenging economic times, we are looking for ways to save money.

So, starting this month, we are making the following changes to be more effective in our mission to bring your voice to Capitol Hill and to provide you with timely and thoughtful values-based information. This magazine is changing from a six-times-a-year to a quarterly publication. You will receive this informative and beautiful periodical in January, April, July and October. At the mid-point of each quarter we will be e-mailing either a Hill update or a reflection on what is happening politically in Washington and the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT E-MAIL ADDRESS SO THAT YOU DON'T MISS ANY OF THESE UPDATES!* If you wish to receive our update by “snail

mail,” let us know and we will send you a print version.

We hope that this new service of quarterly updates provides an additional incentive for all of us to be more engaged in this struggle “to form a more perfect union.” The issues before us in 2010 do not call for retreat, but rather for renewed engagement. We must communicate to our elected representatives that we expect them to confront the problems of our time and find solutions for the **Common Good**. We must face our broken system of immigration and change it. We must really end the war in Iraq and create true peace in Afghanistan. We must reform Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) so that the poor people in our country live in dignity. We need to create smart fair trade agreements. And we must be conscious of the need to live in a sustainable way “for us and for our posterity.”

As Pope Benedict says in *Caritas In Veritate*, “Love — *caritas* — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” Let us engage with courage and generosity for the sake of our country and our planet.

***To receive our quarterly updates,** send your updated email address to networkupdate@networklobby.org. If you prefer a “snail mail” version, please email your name and address, or send it to:

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Simone Campbell, SSS, is NETWORK's Executive Director.

Civility and the Common Good

BY JIM LEACH

Few subjects seem duller than concern for manners, especially public manners. But few are more important because they affect how individuals inter-relate in community and how societies make decisions that can affect life on the planet.

In this sobering context, it is difficult not to be concerned about the discordant rhetoric of our politics. Words reflect emotion as well as meaning. They clarify—or cloud—thought and energize action, sometimes bringing out the better angels in our nature, sometimes lesser instincts.

Recent comments on the House floor have gathered much attention, but vastly more rancorous, socially divisive assertions are being made across the land, and few are thinking through the meaning or consequences of the words being used. Public officials are labeled “fascist” and “communist.” And more bizarrely, significant public figures have toyed with hints of history-blind radicalism—the notion of “secession.”

One might ask what problem is there with a bit of hyperbole. The logic, to paraphrase Marshall McLuhan’s observation about the media, is the message. If we lost 400,000 soldiers to defeat fascism, spent a fortune and lost thousands to hold communism at bay, and fought a civil war to preserve the union, isn’t it a citizen’s obligation to apply perspective to words that contain warring implications? There is, after all, a difference between holding a particular tax or spending or healthcare view and asserting that an American who supports another approach or is a member of a different political party is an advocate of an “ism” of hate that encompasses gulags and concentration camps. One framework of thought defines rival ideas; the other, enemies.

The poet Walt Whitman once described America as an “athletic democracy.” What he meant was that our politics in the 19th century was rugged and vigorous and spirited. Nativism, anti-immigrant, anti-Catholic sentiment and, of course, toleration for human degrada-

tion implicit in slavery and indentured servitude “hallmarked” more than a little of 19th century American thought and many of our social structures.

Isn't it a citizen's obligation to apply perspective to words that contain warring implications?

Indeed, violence was part of 19th century political manners. A Vice President shot dead our greatest Treasury Secretary for suggesting he was “despicable” in a duel in which the pistols were filed to a “hair” trigger, causing Alexander Hamilton, who may in effect have been duped, to fire prematurely skyward. Moments later, Aaron Burr vindicated Hamilton’s

assessment of his character by mercilessly gunning him down.

So, uncivil behavior is nothing new. What is new are transformative changes in communications technology in American politics, and the issues people face.

In teaching at Harvard and Princeton upon leaving Congress, I developed a series of what I call two-minute courses in American governance. Let me cite several:

1. *Political Science 101* begins with the observation that, with episodic swings, the country over the past



DAN MOORE

generation has been approximately one-third Democratic, one-third Republican, and one-third independent. Grade school math tells us that one-half of one-third is one-sixth. So 16 2/3% of the voters nominally control candidate selection in each party, but because only one in four (often a fraction of this figure) participate in primaries, it is 1/4 x 1/6, that is 1/24 of the electorate that controls the candidate selection process of each of the parties. This 4% is socially quite conservative on the Republican side and vigorously liberal on the Democratic. As a consequence, legislative bodies intended to represent a cross-section of the American public hardly have a place for the vast majoritarian center.

2. *Political Science 102* is that in primaries for president, Republican candidates lean right and then if nominated, scoot to the center in the general election; Democrats, vice-versa. But in Congress the scoot is seldom evident. Approximately 380 of 435 House seats are designed or gerrymandered in such a way as to be safe for one party. About half of these safe seats are held by Republicans and half by Democrats. With few exceptions, safe-seat members must lean to the philosophical edges to prevail in primaries and, if nominated and elected, have every incentive to remain firmly positioned far from the center because the only serious challenge to their career choice is likely to come from within their party's attentive, uncompromising base. Institutional polarization is the inevitable result.

3. *Psychology 101* relates to the fact that an increasing number of issues in Congress are perceived to be of a moral as contrasted with a judgmental nature. Advocates of one perspective or the other assume that an individual on the other side of a moral issue is by implication advocating immorality. While some value-based issues cannot for individual members be

compromised, most issues should be subject to reasoned give-and-take if there is mutual respect, what is uniquely labeled legislative comity. Unfortunately, neighborly attitudes of typical American communities are not reflected in legislative chambers, where partisanship governs.

4. *Journalism 101*: In the 19th century, towns and cities often had at least two newspapers, one controlled by each major national party. They were overtly partisan, sometimes vituperatively. But the public understood the biases and factored these into their judgments. With the consolidation of newspapers and advent of radio and TV in the 20th century, mass audiences appeared at first to require greater balance. While the 1930s produced a few radio demagogues like Father Coughlin, the new mass media generally recognized that large audiences required accuracy and balance. In

Legislation is increasingly driven by partisan concerns rather than consideration for philosophical notions like the public interest or the greatest good of the greatest number.

TV's formative years, the three major networks competed to be regarded as the most fair and balanced. Walter Cronkite and syndicated columnists Walter Lippmann, Marquis Childs and David Broder were revered, and editorial pages of great newspapers combined conservatives and liberals such as Bill Buckley and I.F. Stone. As competition for audiences and advertising increased with the rise of cable and the Internet, media owners found it commercially advantageous or ideologically compelling to project a point of view, coming full circle to the 19th century model of partisan reporting. While a wide variety of expression is important, should facile opinion-mongering—the idea that news, like clothes, must appeal to a market segment—crowd out fairness and balance?

5. *Philosophy 101* is the absence of abstraction. Legislation is increasingly driven by partisan concerns rather than consideration for philosophical notions like the public interest or the greatest good of the greatest number. Idealism has given way to a legislative dynamic in which dominant considerations are how to respond to issues vibrant in a party's base constituencies and how to balance the influence of various moneyed interest groups.

6. *Philosophy 102*: There is something about the human condition that wants to be allowed to make governing decisions at socially cohesive levels where citizens may have impact. There is a lot written today about globalism, but this century is also about localism. To adapt to a fast changing world, one must understand both phenomena—the fact, as Tip O'Neill repeatedly noted, that all politics is local and a corollary that all local decisions are affected by international events.

7. *Sports 101*: There are profound analogies between politics and sports. A journalist, Grantland Rice, famously got it right three-quarters of a century ago when he observed that winning and losing are less important than how the game is played. Likewise in politics. The temper and integrity of the political dialogue are more important for the cohesiveness of society than the outcome of any election. The problem in politics is that there are so few rules and no referees. The public must be on perpetual guard and prepared to throw flags when politicians overstep the bounds of fairness and decency. Just as football players, wrestlers or tennis team members compete to win, they also learn to respect their opponents. Is it asking too much for candidates and their supporters to do the same in politics?

8. *Literature 101* involves a set of four books called *The Alexandria Quartet*

by British author Lawrence Durrell. Set in Egypt between the first and second World Wars in the ancient city of Alexandria, the first book spins a story from the eyes of one of the participants. Then Durrell proceeds to describe the same events in subsequent books, each narrative from the perspective of other participants. One wonders: why read about the same events more than once? The reason is that each story is profoundly different. The moral is that to get a sense of reality it is necessary to see things from more than one pair of eyes. This may apply to interactions in community, in a court room, or internationally—where what America does may seem reasonable from our perspective but look very different from the perspective of a European or African, a Middle Easterner or Asian.

9. *Reality 101*: In the most profound political science observation of the 20th century, Albert Einstein suggested that splitting the atom had changed everything except our way of thinking. Human nature may be one of the few constants in history, but 9/11 has taught that thinking must change, not simply because of the destructive power of the big bomb but because of the impulsive nature of small acts. Violence and social division are rooted in hate. Since such thought begins in the hearts and minds of individuals, it is in each of our hearts and minds that hate must be checked and our way of thinking changed.

10. *Reality 102*: In Western civilization's most prophetic poem, *The Second Coming*, William Butler Yeats suggests that the center cannot hold "when the best lack all conviction and the worst are full of passionate intensity." Apocalypse may not be a field of study, but it would seem that the chaos of modernity has produced a crisis of perspective as well as values. Citizens of various philosophical persuasions reflect increased disrespect for fellow citizens and thus for modern-day democratic governance. Much of the problem may flow from the fast-

changing nature of our society, which has so many destabilizing elements. But part falls at the feet of politicians and their supporters who use inflammatory rhetoric to divide the country. Candidates may prevail in elections by tearing down rather than uplifting, but if elected, they cannot then unite an angered citizenry. Negativity raises the temperature level of legislatures just as it dispirits the soul of society.

Past Congresses have often been feisty, but what is so confounding about today's politics is the break with a central aspect of American political tradition. Historically,

**Civilization requires civility.
Words matter.**

legislative decision-making has been based on what might be described as a Hegelian give-and-take between the parties—the thesis being one party's perspective, the antithesis, the other's, and the synthesis being legislation that accommodates concerns of each.

Over the last several decades, however, a trend has developed or, more precisely, become accentuated, where legislative compromises are being made almost exclusively within whichever party controls Congress rather than between the parties. As the majority party increasingly views itself as the exclusive vehicle of legislative governance, the minority sees itself more in the European parliamentary tradition as the opposition; and vice-versa.

Far better it would be for all legislators to consider themselves responsible for governing and for both sides to recognize that the other has something to say and contribute. In a society as complicated as ours, it is irrational to think that Republicans cannot find some Democratic initiatives helpful to society and that Democrats cannot from time to time vote with Republicans.

Unlike natural physics, where Sir Isaac Newton pointed out that action equals reaction, in social chemistry reaction can be greater than action. Name-calling in the kindergarten of life can lead to hardening of attitudes and sometimes physical responses. Hence, civil discourse is about more than good man-

ners. To label someone a "communist" may spark unspeakable acts; to call a country "evil" may cause a surprisingly dangerous counter-reaction.

How we lead or fail to lead in an interdependent world will be directly related to how we comprehend our own history, values and diversity of experiences, and how deeply we come to understand and respect other peoples and societies. Citizenship is hard. It takes willingness to listen, watch, read and think in ways that allow the imagination to put one person in the shoes of another.

Civilization requires civility. Words matter. Just as coarseness in public manners and polarizing rhetoric can jeopardize social cohesion and even public safety, healing approaches such as Lincoln's call for a new direction "with malice toward none" can uplift and help bring society and the world closer together.

Little is more important for the world's leading democracy in this change-intensive century than establishing an ethos of thoughtfulness and decency of expression in the public square.

If we don't try to understand and respect others, how can we expect them to respect us, our values, and our way of life?

Jim Leach is a former 15-term Republican Congressman from Iowa. He currently serves as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR

Voting Record of the 111th Congress, First Session

NETWORK'S voting record for the first session of the 111th Congress confirms a prediction made by many at the conclusion of the 110th Congress in 2008: that the effects of unprecedented crises and challenges facing our nation would continue into 2009. The new president and Congress were immediately faced with millions of citizens losing their homes and jobs and, consequently, access to healthcare. The rising costs—monetary and personal—of the U.S. military presence in Afghani-

stan presented another hurdle. Still, many held the hope that the arrival of the new administration might usher in a new day.

This year's voting record reflects some of the efforts of Congress to deal with these realities—the economic downturn accompanied by financial and corporate failures affecting the global community, rising unemployment and widespread foreclosure, and two lengthy wars. In the midst of this all is recorded the ongoing struggle of

Congress to fulfill President Obama's commitment to make real the long awaited promise of access to affordable, quality healthcare for all.

This record is evidence of a nation struggling to address its myriad problems and hopefully, the values underlying who we are. Progress has been made, but far more remains to be done.

Catherine Pinkerton, CSJ, NETWORK Lobbyist.

House Voting Record 2009

1. TARP Reform & Accountability Act of 2009 Vote #26 (H.R. 384)

NETWORK supported this bill, which provided greater transparency and added stringent controls on compensation for executives of companies receiving Troubled Asset Relief Program money.

Passed 260–166 (7 not voting), January 21, 2009

2. Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 Vote #37 (S. 181)

NETWORK supported this bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967. It provides protections against legal technicalities used to deny fair pay to victims of discrimination, as decided by the Supreme Court in *Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.* (May 2007)

Passed 250–177 (6 not voting), January 27, 2009

3. Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 Vote #50 (H.R. 2)

NETWORK celebrated the passage of H.R. 2 to reauthorize and expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program—(S)CHIP. It provides healthcare to 4 million more low-income

NETWORK welcomed the **Resolution Honoring the Historical Contributions of U.S. Catholic Women Religious (H. Res. 441)**, initiated by Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), to honor and commend Sisters for their humble service and courageous sacrifices throughout U.S. history.

Agreed to 412–0 (20 not voting), September 22, 2009

children whose parents cannot afford private insurance but earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, bringing overall coverage to 11 million. Pregnant immigrants and children of immigrants who are legally present may also receive health benefits.

Passed 290–135 (8 not voting), February 4, 2009

4. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Vote #70 (H.R. 1)

NETWORK supported this bill to stimulate the economy and forestall further devastating effects of the recession on low- and middle-income households. Also known as the “economic stimulus” bill, it provided a combination of tax cuts, tax credits and spending targeted at providing or maintaining jobs and supporting those most in need. Spending increases included assistance to TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), unemployment benefits and food stamps. There were also increases in the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Passed 246–183, with 1 voting “present” (3 not voting), February 13, 2009

5. Congressional Budget for the Federal Government for fiscal year 2010 Vote #192 (H. Con. Res. 85)

NETWORK supported this budget resolution, which helped shift financial benefits from the wealthiest 2% to the other 98%. It extends some ARRA program gains for those experiencing poverty into a budget that will become a baseline for future years.

Passed 233–196 (3 not voting), April 2, 2009



E. KIM

6. Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 Vote #271 (S. 896)

NETWORK supported this bill intended to protect middle-income families from losing homes to foreclosure. Mortgage modification became easier under the Hope for Homeowners program and FDIC insurance coverage was extended through 2013. However, NETWORK is disappointed that the Senate eliminated an important provision that allowed bankruptcy judges to modify term of residential mortgages, as they can for luxury properties.

Passed 367–54, with 1 voting “present” (11 not voting),
May 19, 2009

7. McGovern of Massachusetts Amendment to National Defense Authorization Act for 2010 Vote #454 (H.Amdt. 263 to H.R. 2647)

NETWORK supported this amendment to require public identification of students and instructors at the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), previously known as the School of the Americas. The amendment remained in the bill that was signed into law on October 28.

Passed 224–190 (25 not voting), June 25, 2009

8. Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 Vote #637 (H.R. 3288)

NETWORK supported this appropriations bill in which the House proposed an additional \$200 million in project-based vouchers, and other supports to provide housing for low-income households.

Passed 256–168 (9 not voting), July 23, 2009

The Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (H.R. 2346)

provided additional funds to 9 federal departments, the White House and the Legislative Branch. Most funding went to the Defense Department for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. NETWORK successfully advocated that it also be used to reduce the military’s role in economic development in Iraq. Funding was shifted back to the State Department through USAID. We are not including this complex bill in the voting record, however, because there were other provisions we did not support.

Changes in the House During This Session

- Ellen Tauscher (D-CA): Resigned June 26, 2009
- Hilda Solis (D-CA): Resigned February 24, 2009
- John Garamendi (D-CA): Elected November 3, 2009
- Judy Chu (D-CA): Elected July 14, 2009
- Mike Quigley (D-IL): Elected April 7, 2009
- Rahm Emanuel (D-IL): Resigned January 2, 2009
- Bill Owens (D-NY): Elected November 3, 2009
- John McHugh (R-NY): Resigned September 21, 2009
- Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY): Resigned January 26, 2009
- Scott Murphy (D-NY): Elected March 31, 2009

9. Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act Vote #646 (H.R. 3293)

NETWORK supported inclusion of funding for the Department of Labor to hire an additional 250 wage-theft investigators. The House increased spending by 9%, with a significant increase for additional investigators.

Passed 264–153 (16 not voting), July 24, 2009

10. Murtha of Pennsylvania Amendment to Department of Defense Appropriations Act for 2010 Vote #661 (H.Amdt. 392 to H.R. 3326)

NETWORK supported this amendment, which redirected funds for F-22 aircraft to other purposes. This was a small but significant change to defense spending, since arms control groups have tried for many years to cut the F-22, a Cold War weapon no longer useful for our military.

Passed 269–165 (5 not voting), July 30, 2009

11. Unemployment Compensation Act of 2009, renamed Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009 Vote #859 (H.R. 3548)

NETWORK supported this bill, which provides 14 additional weeks of unemployment benefits to workers in all 50 states. In states with high unemployment rates (a 3-month average of at least 8.5%), recipients would get an additional 6 weeks of benefits for 20 weeks total, providing much needed relief for those who are long-term unemployed.

Passed 403–12 (18 not voting), November 5, 2009

12. Affordable Healthcare for America Act Vote #887 (H.R. 3962)

NETWORK supported this bill, the House Leadership Bill, which merged the work of 3 House committees: Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and Education and Labor. The goal was universal coverage to be achieved by the merging of directives and responsibilities specific to each committee, thus building toward comprehensive healthcare reform.

Passed 220–215, November 7, 2009

Senate Voting Record 2009

1. Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 Vote #14 (S. 181)

NETWORK supported the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. (See #2 in the House voting record.)

Passed 61–36 (1 not voting), January 22, 2009

2. Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 Vote #31 (H.R. 2)

NETWORK supported the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program. (For description, see #3 in the House voting record.)

Passed 66–32 (1 not voting), January 29, 2009

3. American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 Vote #61 (H.R. 1, originally S. 1)

NETWORK supported the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. (See #4 in the House Voting Record.)

Passed 61–37 (1 not voting), February 10, 2009

4. Congressional Budget for the Federal Government for fiscal year 2010 Vote #173 (S. Con. Res. 13)

NETWORK supported passage of the federal budget. (See #5 in the House Voting Record.)

Passed 53–43 (3 not voting) • April 29, 2009

5. Helping Families Save Their Homes Act of 2009 Vote #185 (S. 896)

NETWORK supported this bill to reduce foreclosures. (See #6 in the House Voting Record.)

Passed 91–5 (3 not voting), May 6, 2009

6. Levin of Michigan Amendment to National Defense Authorization Act for 2010 Vote #235 (S. Amdt. 1469 to S. 1390)

NETWORK supported this amendment to cut \$1.75 billion from F-22 aircraft procurement, and redirect it to other purposes. The House also passed an amendment to eliminate F-22 funds (see #10 in the House voting record, and the Sept/Oct. issue of *Connection*).

Passed 58–40 (2 not voting), July 21, 2009

7. Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 Vote #287 (H.R. 3288)

NETWORK supported passage of the Transportation and HUD Appropriations. (See #8 in the House Voting Record.)

Passed 73–25 (1 not voting), September 17, 2009



E. KIM

8. Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009, renamed Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009 Vote #334 (H.R. 3548)

NETWORK supported this bill to extend unemployment compensation, particularly for those in states with the highest unemployment rates. (See #11 in House Voting Record.)

Passed 98–0 (2 not voting), November 4, 2009

9. Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to H.R. 3590 Vote #353 (H.R. 3590)

NETWORK supported this motion, which allowed the Senate to proceed with debate on the Senate version of the healthcare reform bill, S.Amdt. 2786, a "substitute" amendment for H.R. 3590 named the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. This was the only Senate vote on healthcare reform before the deadline for this voting record.

Passed 60–39 (1 not voting), November 21, 2009

Changes in the Senate During This Session

- Ken Salazar (D-CO): Resigned January 20, 2009
- Michael Bennet (D-CO): Sworn in January 22, 2009
- Ted Kaufman (D-DE): Sworn in January 16, 2009
- George LeMieux (R-FL): Sworn in September 10, 2009
- Mel Martinez (R-FL): Resigned September 9, 2009
- Roland Burris (D-IL): Sworn in January 15, 2009
- Edward Kennedy (D-MA): Died August 25, 2009
- Paul Kirk (D-MA): Sworn in September 25, 2009
- Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY): Sworn in January 27, 2009

111th CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

HOW THEY
VOTED IN THE
SENATE

	Fair Pay	Child Health	ARRA	Budget	Save Homes	F-22	Housing	Unemployment	Healthcare	% voted with NETWORK
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	%
ALABAMA										
Richard Shelby (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	44%
Jeff Sessions (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
ALASKA										
Mark Begich (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Lisa Murkowski (R)	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	55%
ARIZONA										
Jon Kyl (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	33%
John McCain (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	33%
ARKANSAS										
Blanche Lincoln (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Mark Pryor (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
CALIFORNIA										
Dianne Feinstein (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Barbara Boxer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
COLORADO										
Michael Bennet (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Mark Udall (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
CONNECTICUT										
Joseph Lieberman (I)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Christopher Dodd (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
DELAWARE										
Ted Kaufman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Thomas Carper (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
FLORIDA										
George LeMieux (R)	I	I	I	I	I	I	-	+	-	33%*
Mel Martinez (R)	-	+	-	-	+	-	I	I	I	33%*
Bill Nelson (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
GEORGIA SENATORS										
Saxby Chambliss (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Johnny Isakson (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
HAWAII										
Daniel Inouye (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Daniel Akaka (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
IDAHO										
Mike Crapo (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Jim Risch (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
ILLINOIS										
Roland Burris (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Richard Durbin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
INDIANA										
Richard Lugar (R)	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	55%
Evan Bayh (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	77%
IOWA										
Charles Grassley (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Tom Harkin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
KANSAS										
Pat Roberts (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
Sam Brownback (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
KENTUCKY										
Jim Bunning (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	11%
Mitch McConnell (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
LOUISIANA										
David Vitter (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Mary Landrieu (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	o	+	+	100%*
MAINE										
Susan Collins (R)	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	66%
Olympia Snowe (R)	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	66%
MARYLAND										
Barbara Mikulski (D)	+	+	+	+	+	o	+	+	+	100%*
Benjamin Cardin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
MASSACHUSETTS										
Paul Kirk (D)	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	+	+	100%*
John Kerry (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Edward Kennedy (D)	o	o	o	o	+	o	I	I	I	100%*
MICHIGAN										
Debbie Stabenow (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Carl Levin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
MINNESOTA										
Amy Klobuchar (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Al Franken (D)	I	I	I	I	I	+	+	+	+	100%*
MISSISSIPPI										
Thad Cochran (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
Roger Wicker (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
MISSOURI										
Claire McCaskill (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	o	+	88%*
Christopher Bond (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	44%

Percentage with asterisk () signifies that legislator did not vote on all relevant bills.

Key to votes:

Voted with NETWORK..... +
 Voted against NETWORK..... -
 Did not vote..... o
 Inactive/not in office..... I

	Fair Pay	Child Health	ARRA	Budget	Save Homes	F-22	Housing	Unemployment	Healthcare	% voted with NETWORK
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	%
MONTANA										
Max Baucus (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Jon Tester (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
NEBRASKA										
Mike Johanns (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
Ben Nelson (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	88%
NEVADA										
John Ensign (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	33%
Harry Reid (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW HAMPSHIRE										
Judd Gregg (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	33%
Jeanne Shaheen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
NEW JERSEY										
Robert Menendez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Frank Lautenberg (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NEW MEXICO										
Jeff Bingaman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Tom Udall (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
NEW YORK										
Charles Schumer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kirsten Gillibrand (D)	I	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%*
NORTH CAROLINA										
Richard Burr (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Kay Hagan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
NORTH DAKOTA										
Kent Conrad (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Byron Dorgan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
OHIO										
Sherrrod Brown (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
George Voinovich (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	o	50%*
OKLAHOMA										
Tom Coburn (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	22%
James Inhofe (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	11%
OREGON										
Jeff Merkley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Ron Wyden (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
PENNSYLVANIA										
Robert Casey (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Arlen Specter (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	88%
RHODE ISLAND										
Jack Reed (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Sheldon Whitehouse (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
SOUTH CAROLINA										
Jim DeMint (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	22%
Lindsey Graham (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	33%
SOUTH DAKOTA										
John Thune (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Tim Johnson (D)	+	+	+	+	o	+	+	+	+	100%*
TENNESSEE										
Lamar Alexander (R)	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	55%
Bob Corker (R)	-	+	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	44%
TEXAS										
John Cornyn (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	22%
Kay Bailey Hutchison (R)	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	55%
UTAH										
Orrin Hatch (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
Robert Bennett (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	33%
VERMONT										
Patrick Leahy (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Bernard Sanders (I)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
VIRGINIA										
Jim Webb (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Mark Warner (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
WASHINGTON										
Maria Cantwell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
Patty Murray (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	88%
WEST VIRGINIA										
John Rockefeller (D)	+	+	+	+	o	+	+	+	+	100%*
Robert Byrd (D)	+	+	+	o	+	-	+	o	+	86%*
WISCONSIN										
Herbert Kohl (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Russ Feingold (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
WYOMING										
John Barrasso (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	33%
Michael Enzi (R)	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	33%

Use NETWORK's Voting Record and Web Site to Foster Justice

BY DAVID GOLEMBOSKI

NETWORK's voting record can be a helpful tool in your efforts as a justice advocate. Consider using it in some of the following ways:

- Write to your senators and representatives to tell them what you think of their votes. Members of Congress care about how their constituents think they're doing.
- Write a letter to the editor about your legislators' records and how much they reflect concern for justice and the common good.
- Distribute copies of the voting record to inform, educate and start discussions. These can be used among friends, family, members of your parish, or even with local legislators.

Check our Web Site

Remember that you can also follow key legislative issues all year long on NETWORK's Web site:

www.networklobby.org.

The most helpful tool is the **Legislative Action Center**. Look on the homepage for the link on the right of the page that says "Legislative Action Center." All of the resources discussed in the following sections can be accessed through the Legislative Action Center.

Your Elected Officials: Enter your Zip code into the "CONTACT CONGRESS" box on the right side of any page on NETWORK's Web site. This will bring up pictures of the president and your senators and representative.

Click on "info" (under an official's picture) for more information about them—for example, how to contact, what committee(s) they serve on, and even campaign contribution records! Click on "votes" to see how their voting record lines up with NETWORK's positions and priorities. Click "e-mail" to send them a message.

Key Issues and Legislation: In the Legislative Action Center, click on the blue "Issues and Legislation" tab. Here

you can click on "Legislative Alerts and Updates" to read recent alerts that NETWORK has sent out. Under "Current Legislation," you can see bills in Congress that NETWORK has identified as important. Clicking "Key Votes" displays a list of votes that have occurred in Congress and if NETWORK supported them or not. Finally, "Capitol Hill Basics" offers tips and guidance for communicating with members of Congress.

And Sign Up for More

You can use the NETWORK Web site to sign-up for our weekly Legislative Update email alerts, or to manage your

subscription information (to change your email address, for example). At the Legislative Action Center, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the **Action E-List** link. On that page, if you've never signed up for NETWORK's emails, you can enter your contact info and click "Submit." If you are already subscribed to the email list, you can enter your email address at the bottom of the page and click "Go" to edit your information and subscription preferences.

Communicate with Legislators

The most important thing to do on NETWORK's Web site is to let it help you connect with your representatives in Washington. When you first click on the "Legislative Action Center" link, you will see a list of recent Action Alerts. Clicking these will direct you to a description of the alert and a form that will guide you in crafting a message to the appropriate person. This is easy and efficient—and the Web site even provides a headstart on your message!

If you want to send a message unrelated to one of the alerts, follow the steps above to find your elected officials and click the "Compose Your Own Message" link above their photos.

Act for Justice!

NETWORK's Web site is loaded with information and perspectives on current legislative topics. Explore the links at the top of the page to learn more about NETWORK, Catholic Social Teaching, and resources for you and your community.

Remember, though, that one of the most vital aspects of NETWORK's Web site is to connect you with lawmakers who need to hear from you. The Web site and voting record are helpful advocacy tools—take advantage of them both!

David Golemboski is NETWORK's Field Associate.



BALLOT

ELIGIBLE TO VOTE: NETWORK Members
(one vote per membership please)

You can mail your ballot to NETWORK in the envelope inserted in the middle of the magazine. Please write "election" on the outside of the envelope. **Ballots must be postmarked by March 15, 2010**, to be counted.

VOTE FOR THREE:

- Elizabeth Disco-Shearer
- Veronica Fellerath-Lowell
- Mary Beth Hamm
- **Sandra Thibodeaux**
- Dick Ullrich
- Joseph Walker

**Incumbent

NETWORK

A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

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NETWORK BOARD ELECTION BALLOT

NETWORK Members—Vote for three (3) candidates. “**” indicates that candidate is a current Board Member running for re-election. Ballots can be mailed in the envelope found in the middle of the magazine. You may photocopy this page, but please send only **one ballot per paid membership**. **Ballots must be postmarked by March 15, 2010.**

CANDIDATES

- Elizabeth Disco-Shearer**, Dallas TX; Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Italian-American.

From conducting voter registration drives, to educating refugees on financial literacy, to fighting for the rights of incarcerated youth, I have always fought for the dignity of the human person. I believe very much in the words of the great patron saint of charity, St. Vincent de Paul, who said, "Those who help the poor in life shall not fear death." It would be a humbling experience to serve on the Board of NETWORK.

- Veronica Fellerath-Lowell**, Silver Spring MD; Volunteer: Policy associate (Pax Christi USA); Crisis advocate (East Montgomery Emergency Assistance Network); Website author (Riderwoodlife.org); Irish-German.

I have relied on NETWORK and now wish to commit to it my organizing and leadership skills honed by long involvement with Pax Christi, including regional chairpersonship. In NY, I was a mathematics teacher, community organizer, social policy research analyst, and Catholic Charities parish social ministry developer. In DC, I have advocated and obtained co-sponsors for legislation. I have: an MPA (Kennedy School, Harvard) and D.Min. (Hebrew Union). I am 68, in good health, and energetic!

- Mary Beth Hamm**, Philadelphia PA; Sister of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Social Justice Coordinator; Caucasian.

To further NETWORK's mission I offer our SSJ charism of unioning, inclusive love; the fruits of ministry experiences (Education, Administration, Justice) especially compassion, openness, and reverence for diversity; global relationships in the C/SSJ Justice Network; organizational and planning skills; zeal that compels me to labor for social/eco-justice. Constituencies: Sisters of Saint Joseph, Associates, Volunteer Corps, Sponsored Works; C/SSJ Federation Justice Coordinators and constituencies; C/SSJ International Justice Network; Catholic Coalition for Justice & Peace.

- **Sandra Thibodeaux**, Liberty MO; Mercedarian Missionary of Berriz; Coordinator of Liberty Hospital Hospice Program and Coordinator of my Parish Health Ministry Team; African American.

I have always worked in healthcare, serving the elderly, poor and dying. With all, my main concern has been to provide care with dignity. For the elderly, this means responding with respect and reassurance and also providing quality healthcare. For members of my parish, our health ministry team provides care where resources are scarce. For Hospice patients, I advocate and collaborate on what is best for each patient so they can experience physical, emotional and spiritual comfort.

- Dick Ullrich**, Baltimore MD; Retired Director of the Office of Justice and Peace for the Marianist Brothers and Priests, New York Province; Eastern European.

With deep respect and admiration of the work of NETWORK, I am happy and sincerely humbled to be considered for a place on the Board. I believe in NETWORK's mission, vision and strategies; not only are the principles clear but the practical application of education and organizing makes for effective lobbying. I bring diversity and experience. I bring thirty years of work on local and national faith-based boards and committees.

- Joseph Walker**, East Grand Rapids MI; Retired from General Motors Corporation; Caucasian of Irish descent.

I am enthusiastic, committed and respectful of the work product of NETWORK. I am an advocate for the praxis of Catholic Social Teaching by communicating on specific issues with my elected officials, and working to reveal CST's "secrets" to my fellow Catholics. Education from the Dominican Sisters, Detroit's Jesuit high school, Boston College, my MBA from Wayne State University, post-graduate work at Mercy College of Detroit, plus 50 years of work experience should prove useful.