

30th Legislative District Democratic Organization

Regular General
Monthly Meeting
November 3, 2010
First Wednesday of
each month 7 – 9 P.M.
4016 S 352 St. 98001
½ mile west of
Military Rd

For the November 3 Regular General Meeting

The following Resolution is being submitted to the membership of the 30th LD Democrats for consideration at the Membership Meeting on November 3, 2010. The purpose is to protect the level of benefits to current and future recipients of Social Security and Medicare.

**Resolution Requesting that Our Congressional
Representatives & Senators Vote Against the Entire Deficit
Commission Recommendation Package if it Includes Any Cuts
to Social Security or Medicare**

WHEREAS, Social Security and Medicare are currently being threatened with significant cuts by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, which is stacked with appointees who have indicated that they support significant cuts to these programs; and

WHEREAS this commission is expected to put out a set of recommendations in early December, 2010 which will be subject to an up or down vote by a lame duck Congress; and

WHEREAS the following proposals affecting Social Security and Medicare which are reportedly under discussion are unacceptable:

1. Any attempt to privatize Social Security, in whole or in part
2. Any recommendation to raise eligibility ages for Social Security or Medicare
3. Any recommendation involving means-testing Social Security or Medicare
4. Any recommendation of benefit cuts, current and future, for Social Security or Medicare beneficiaries; and

WHEREAS, the loss of family wage jobs, the increase in long-term unemployment and the loss of significant retirement savings has had a severe impact on Washingtonians across all age brackets making Social Security and Medicare more critical than ever; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the 30th LD Democrats request our Congressional Representatives and Senators to take any and all steps available to prevent a floor vote on the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform recommendations if any unacceptable proposal is included in the package; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 30th LD Democrats request our Congressional Representatives and Senators to vote against any package of recommendations from the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform if any unacceptable proposal (as defined in this Resolution) is included in the package, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee for consideration and adoption.

OFFICERS**Chair:**

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MIDDLE CLASS TAX CUTS

(Excerpted from David Axelrod, The White House)

Ten years ago, Congress passed broad income tax cuts. But, in a cynical accounting trick designed to mask their long-term impact, they scheduled these cuts to expire in January 2011.

Now we are approaching that cliff, and millions of Americans are facing thousands of dollars in higher taxes on January 1.

That's why President Obama is fighting to extend the tax breaks for middle class Americans.

Under the Obama plan, every middle class family with incomes up to \$250,000, (which includes 98 percent of American taxpayers) would receive the immediate certainty of knowing their tax cuts were permanently extended. This is fair, just and crucial for our economy.

For every American making more than \$250,000 per year, they would receive a tax cut on the first \$250,000 of their income. For income above that amount, this change would leave their tax rates at or below the rates that existed when President Clinton was in office and when the economy created 23 million jobs.

Middle class Americans saw their incomes shrink during the last decade, and have borne the brunt of the recession. They need the relief, and America needs a strong, thriving middle class. Because middle class families are most likely to spend this money quickly, these tax cuts give our economy a much needed shot in the arm.

Seems like a no-brainer, right? Not to the Republican leaders in Congress. They're holding these tax cuts for the middle class hostage, demanding that we also lift the cap and extend the breaks to millionaires and billionaires.

The Republican tax cut plan would add an additional \$700 billion to the deficit over the next ten years and give America's wealthiest people an average tax break of \$100,000.

To top it all off -- the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has found that giving a huge tax break to the wealthiest Americans is one of the least effective ways to stimulate our economy. Adding hundreds of billions of dollars to the deficit while doing very little to grow our economy, put people back to work or strengthen

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America's middle class is exactly the kind of economic policy that got us into this mess in the first place.

We simply cannot afford to go back to their failed policies. It's time for Congressional Republicans to stop playing politics with tax cuts for the middle class.

Information about gas lines in our neighborhoods

(from Puget Sound Energy)

All of the natural gas PSE acquires is transported into the utility's service area through large interstate pipelines owned and operated by another company. PSE withdraws natural gas supplies from these pipelines and distributes the natural gas to customers through more than 21,000 miles of PSE-owned natural gas mains and service lines. Our distribution system is interconnected across some 2,900 square miles over six counties.

Approximately 70 percent of PSE's existing network of natural-gas mains and service lines is made of durable, corrosion-resistant plastic piping. Most of the remaining pipe is coated steel equipped with cathodic protection – a method of inhibiting corrosion on steel pipe. The rest of PSE's natural-gas piping, a tiny percentage of the total, is in the process of being replaced with plastic pipe.

Most natural gas mains in the street are usually buried at a depth of 4 feet and service lines (which connect the main to your house/meter) are generally buried at a depth of 24 inches.

PSE inspects the underground natural gas system in accordance with federal and state law. Areas with bare-steel lines, which can be susceptible to corrosion, are surveyed, at minimum, every six months. Areas with high-occupancy structures, business districts, or natural gas-transmission pipelines are surveyed annually. Plastic and cathodically protected steel natural gas lines are surveyed every five years, at minimum.

Moreover, PSE technicians and other field employees monitor the natural gas system daily for anything out of the ordinary, including construction activity in the vicinity of gas lines. Unless natural gas lines are somehow damaged or

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severely corroded, natural gas lines will perform safely for many decades.

Most natural gas leaks result from construction contractors, homeowners or others accidentally damaging an underground pipeline while excavating or digging. Therefore, PSE and other pipeline operators encourage everyone to contact the 811 "Call Before You Dig" hotline to schedule a free utility locator service to mark underground utility lines before beginning any work that involves digging, such as building a new fence or deck, planting trees and shrubs, or even pulling out a tree stump.

For a map of transmission lines in the area, please visit the National Pipeline Mapping System (PHMSA/NMPS) . Please visit our website for more information about natural gas safety and reliability and how natural gas is delivered .

If you smell natural gas or have concerns about the piping serving your address, please call us at 1-888-225-5773.

If you have questions let us know at PSETalk@pse.com.

(from voices.washingtonpost.com/plum-line)

Let's be clear—even John Boehner [acknowledged](#) that more than 97% of small businesses will get a permanent tax cut under the Obama plan, and beyond that many of the "businesses" that fall into the top 3% are not small businesses at all. In fact, the individuals the Congressional Republicans are referencing as small businesses include virtually every partner at major corporate law firms and billionaire hedge fund managers -- not exactly mom and pop stores or startup businesses.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ? IF SO, THANK YOU – IF NOT, PLEASE DO!

Dues are due in February of each year. PCOs are encouraged to pay dues. (If your name is not on this list, please check with the Treasurer.)

President's Club:

Peg/Jay Altman ,Frank/Beverly Warnke, Art/Dee Fluharty, Jeff/Kaori Holden, Greg/Shelley Markley, Jean Matthew, Sterling Smith, Jem Wear

Senator's Club:

Elbert/Linda Gage, Rick Hoffman, Paul Mallary, LeeAnn Prielip, Ron/Mary Simosky

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Telephone Numbers
The White House: 202 456 1111
WASH D.C. 202 225 3121 or
Try 1 866 338 1015 OR GO TO:
www.callcongress.org
WA STATE Legislative toll-free
Hotline: 1 800 562 6000
King County Elections:
206 296 VOTE
Track WA Bills & Votes Here
<http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature>
30th District Democrats
Website: www.30thdems.wa.gov

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**** Progressive Talk Radio****

Go to AM1090 on your radio dial.
Thom Hartmann 9 to noon M-Fri
Norman Goldman 3-6 p.m. M-Fri
Ring of Fire, Sat noon - 3 , Sunday 1 P.M.

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Membership Levels:

Voting Member: \$20 Family (2 voting members) \$ 25 Associate/Non Voting Member: \$10
Senator's Club: \$50 President's Club \$100

Any registered voter residing within the 30th Legislative District who hereby declares him/herself to be a Democrat may become a voting member upon payment of Annual Dues. *Dues are payable at time of joining and renewable in February each year.*

CALENDAR

Wed 11/03 30th District Democrats *Regular General meeting*, 4016 S 352 St
98001 (1/2 mile west of Military) 1 st Wed of each month 7-9 PM
Doors open 6:30 P.M.

Wed 11/10 **Exec Board Meeting, Meridian Court, 31420 23 Ave S, 7:00 P.M.**
This meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Some of us get there at 6:30. This meeting is open to all.

The December 1st meeting will be our annual Holiday Party. It will be a pot luck. Ham and turkey will be provided. Bring whatever you want to bring: side dish, salad, dessert, bread, wine, water, whatever. We always have great food and a good time.

There will be a re-organization meeting in January. All officers and by-laws are up for election. Only PCO's who were elected in the August Primary will be eligible to vote for Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, WA State Delegates, King County Delegates and Legislative Action Committee delegate.

IF YOU HAVE suggestions/input for the newsletter, contact kd7jpu@arrl.net or 253 838 8618 not later than 18 th of month.