

Draft
Platform of the People
(Revised August 29, 2008)

Reader - please provide critical comments and additional items for each of the below areas (Goals, Challenges, Causes and Solutions) to the compiler Ron Fisher, Fisher@WeThePeopleNow.org, 703-521-3926.

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction,
is the first and only legitimate object of good government."
--Thomas Jefferson

The Platform of the People of the United States provides open-ended, comprehensive lists of:

A. Bold goals.

B. Challenges, concerns, problems, issues, deficiencies, etc. that stand or could stand in the way of attaining these goals.

C. General underlying causes of these concerns, challenges, problems, etc.

D. Proposed solutions, reform, change actions, legislation, mechanics, etc. needed to address the concerns, problems, deficient systems and methods and their underlying causes identified under parts B. and C. above and to reach the bold goals outlined under part A.

These lists will be expanded to include all key items, with detailed descriptions, in a relational data base linked to each other and linked to individuals and organizations involved in and doing this work.

By providing an integrated list of goals, concerns and solutions, cooperative efforts can be found. For example, deteriorating roads and bridges could be repaired by an underemployed workforce using funds now being wasted on pork barrel earmarks, unneeded offensive weapon systems, the Iraq War, redundant government projects etc.

INTRODUCTION

It is an absurd injustice that in this world of plenty, thousands of children die each day from malnutrition and preventable, curable diseases while the U.S. Congress appropriates and the Administration spends over three and one half billion dollars a week of taxpayer's money attempting to steal Iraqi oil for oil companies in an illegal never ending occupation.

About 250 years ago, it took over 95% of the world's population to provide the food, clothing and housing for all the people of the world population.

New technologies, methodologies, education, training, worker productivity etc. make it possible today for less than 5% of the world's population to do this. (This is not to say that we could or should do it this way.)

As proof of this, according to Forbes, a couple of years ago:

- The aggregate annual sales of the world's 2000 largest public companies, was \$24 trillion. This amounted to about 41% of the world's gross domestic product (approximately \$59T).
- These 2000 companies employed about 68 million employees, which is less than 1.1% of the world's population (6.45B)

Assuming that each of the employees, on the average, is the breadwinner for a family of four, it also means that these 2000 corporations pay wages that support about 4.5% of the world's population while selling about 41% of the food, goods, fuels, housing, services, etc. to the entire world.

Since this is a world of plenty, there is no reason that we the people can't have very bold goals.

Bold Goals

1. Meaningful employment “**opportunities**” that pay reasonable wages for all.
2. Quality, comprehensive, publicly funded, single payer physical, dental, emotional, vision, hearing, etc. health care and long term care(LTC) for all.
3. Meaningful, free pre-K through college education and training programs for all.
4. Affordable housing for all. No chronic homelessness, displaced persons, refugees, etc.
5. Affordable, healthy food for all. No malnutrition and no chronic world hunger.
6. Affordable clean drinking water for all,
7. Affordable, green fuel and energy for cooking, heating, transportation, cooling, etc.
8. World peace, diplomacy, safe, stable, secure environments for all. Crime and conflicts as exceptions.
9. Comprehensive affordable, public transportation.
10. Affordable, equitable, restorative justice for all
11. Affordable, recreation, sports, entertainment, theater, art, vacations, etc. (live and via multimedia)
12. Protected and preserved environment, natural resources, water and air.
13. Fair, simple taxes.
14. World peace, diplomacy instead of wars or conflicts
15. Self-reliant, healthier and happier world population.

Challenges and Concerns

What are the challenges and concerns that prevent attaining these goals? Most of the challenges and concerns will provide opportunities for employment, investment, etc.

1. Chronic worldwide unemployment and low and stagnant wages for many workers with jobs.
2. Decreasing tax revenues and social security deposits threaten long-term solvency.
3. Decreasing number of manufacturing jobs in the U.S. as a result of:
 - a. Automation
 - b. Technology
 - c. Consolidations and mergers
 - d. Outsourcing
 - e. Free trade versus fair trade agreements
4. The nation’s fiscal health and the \$53 Trillion worth of unfunded obligations (Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.)
5. Budget deficits
6. Balance of payment deficits
7. The rising cost of health care, food, housing, fuels, energy and education adversely effect the consumer and increase government budget deficits.

8. Without job opportunities and employees being paid reasonable wages, there will not be enough customers to buy goods. With less purchases there will be more lay-offs and lower wages, loss of tax revenues, etc., and the economy will spiral downward with increasing budget deficits.

9. Wars, conflicts, empire building, violence, *using military force to coerce resources from the rest of the world.*, etc. is a major cost.

a. Iraq and Afghanistan occupations

b. Illegal US threats, including possible use of nuclear weapons, against Iran

c. Other wars and conflicts, e.g. West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon, Darfur, Kosovo

d. U.S. history of use of force and violence

e. Nuclear weapons and fissile material proliferation

f. The United States government spends more on weapons, munitions and a standing army than all the rest of the world combined.

g. The United States arms industry exports more weapons and munition than other country in the world. Some of the explosive material in these munitions are used by adversaries in improvised explosive devices (IEDs)

h. Needlessly, large numbers of U. S. troops are stationed in Germany and South Korea and small detachments in over eighty countries.

i. The U.S. spends considerable more on foreign military aid, than on foreign economic aid.

10. We believe that one of the major reasons for out-of-control spending is that Congress has in effect surrendered its responsibility for appropriations in large part to the executive branch and to a lesser degree special interest groups. In other words, Congress has been subcontracting its appropriations power and responsibility resulting in loss of control of the process. One force that has been driving the farming out of this responsibility is the ability to avoid direct accountability. The other force that we think has been driving this trend is the failure to grapple with the difficulties of maintaining constant and adequate oversight.

11. Ever increasing pork-barrel spending and earmarks. Much of the funds for earmarks comes from the Department of Defense and Services O&M (operations and maintenance) accounts which should be used for such things as body armor and hardening vehicles against roadside bombs

12. Entitlement spending, budget deficits, national debt and government financial obligations are all huge and rising.

13. Corporation executives and special interest groups exercising excessive control over legislation and policy decisions. Major aspects of health care systems turned over to drug and insurance companies. Energy policy turned over to big oil companies.

14. The majority of career politicians from the two major parties:

i. Are unwilling to address and solve the issues of war, health care, environment, education, immigration, trade, net neutrality etc.

ii. Answer only to campaign contributors and special interest groups and their party leadership not to the people.

iii. Unwilling to fix our electoral process in ways that make it fair for all to participate.

15. "Citizens' faith in government officials failing everywhere."

16. Regressive tax systems.

17. Instead of protecting individuals rights, government officials are violating the people's rights.
18. Congress has passed unconstitutional laws including:
 - a. The Patriot Act
 - b. The Joint Resolution on Iraq
 - c. Military Commission Act of 2006
 - d. FISA Supplement
 - e. The War Authorization Act
19. Poverty
20. Personal savings
21. The exponential increase of wealth and property in the hand of a very few rich individuals and corporations.
22. Shortages of affordable housing/shelter.
23. Chronic water shortages for drinking, hygiene, irrigation, industry, etc.
24. The stock market, instead of being a means to raise capital for businesses and provide investment opportunities has become more like a gambling casino where insiders and the rich take money from small investors.
25. Environment
 - a. Global warming
 - b. Man-made pollution is causing a growing number of suffocating dead zones across the world's seas with disastrous consequences for marine life.
26. Nuclear weapons proliferation
27. Israel says Gaza is no longer occupied; yet it denies Palestinians access to jobs, travel, commerce, education, and medical care. Its military has turned the Gaza Strip into an open-air concentration camp controlled by land, sea and air. In the past year, the people of Gaza have barely had enough to eat, as Israel withholds food and energy in an attempt to starve them into submission
28. High percentage (90%) of mass media owned by five major companies
29. Election campaigns and elections
 - a. Divisive politics.
 - b. Individual putting parties ahead of the people and the country.
 - c. Campaign finance
 - d. Endemic gerrymandering so that "politicians can pick voters instead of voters picking politicians"
 - e. 50% of all elections have only one name on the ballot

Underlying Causes of the Challenges & Concerns

1. Lack of an understanding of such things as human nature, democracy, practice of ethics,
2. Deficiencies in early child development and education for example
 - a. Stern parent versus nurturing parent approach
 - b. Cooperation versus competition

- c. Pampering versus child solving own problems
 - d. Ostentatiousness
3. Lack of understanding of:
 - a. Semantics, linguistics, framing, communications, etc.
 - b. Reasoning, human nature, character, ethics, values, principles, integrity, accountability, teamwork, courage, humane instincts including cooperation, civility, caring for others, etc.
 - c. The constitution, international treaties, rule of law, civil rights, meaning of sovereignty of the people, democratic processes, the legal system, restorative justice, etc.
 4. Individuals spending considerable time on electronic media (the average grade school student 6.5 hours per day) at the expense of socially interacting with each others, sports, exercising, etc.
 5. Individuals, primarily the rich, obsessed with financial and material wealth/comfort, and our supporting and helping to elect and reelect leaders who are sending their bills to future generations and/or using military force to coerce resources from the rest of the world.
 6. Greed
 7. Negative traits: vindictiveness, bullying, apathy, greed, etc.
 8. Cronyism
 9. Waste, abuse, fraud
 10. Corruption
 11. Bureaucracy
 12. Poverty
 13. Deficiencies in democratic skills
 14. Lack of educational opportunities.
 15. Personnel errors
 16. Lack of or improper education or training
 17. Poor or faulty information, rules, regulations, documentation, legislation.

Proposed Solutions

Proposed solutions, work to be done, needs, reform, change actions, etc. Reform actions which address concerns, problems, deficient systems and methods and their underlying causes identified above.

1. Refine, expand and implement the first phase (which will cover from now until the November 2008 general election) of the **Peoples Information, Education and Training Program**. A proposed draft outline is at http://www.wtpnow.org/peoples_information_and_education_program.pdf. This plan includes informing and educating everyone possible on all the elements of this platform.
2. Replace Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi with Congressman Dennis Kucinich and replace VP Dick Cheney, George Bush and others with qualified government officials and legislators. See **The People's Action Plan to Replace President Bush and Others with Well-Qualified Individuals** at www.wethepeoplenow.org/plan_replace_bush_et_al.pdf.
3. Private and public sectors make available meaningful employment opportunities at living wages for everyone,

along with education and training programs in particular in green industries, recycling, curtailing and ameliorating the ill effects of global warming, environmental protection, developing alternative energy sources, transportation and traffic programs that emphasizes more trains - less traffic and reduces dependence on foreign oil, etc. building affordable housing, health care, LTC, pre-k- programs, etc.

4. Funds for this work to come to from ending the occupation of Iraq, reduction/eliminations of the massive, unneeded nuclear and other offensive weapons systems, corporate subsidies, etc. priority items.

Peace, Diplomacy, Defense

5. Initiate an immediate cease fire and an orderly withdrawal of all U.S., NATO and Coalition forces and US military contractors from Iraq and Afghanistan as outlined in the **Proposed Plan to End Violence in Iraq & Withdraw U.S. Armed Forces in a Peaceful, Just and Timely Manner**

www.wethepeoplenow.org/proposed_plan_iraq.pdf

6. Bring home US military forces from bases stationed in areas Japan, Korea, Germany and all the other 140 countries where our troops are stationed. Get out of empire-building business. Reintegrate these soldiers into the National Guard, workforce, education system and/or civil conservation corps.

7. Cease all offensive, covert operations and threats against Iran or any other country, without a formal declaration of war by Congress

8. Develop and execute comprehensive open ended plans for the U.S. role to resolve the U.S./Iran & U. S./Syria crises with an emphasis on greater diplomacy. Ask your Representative to co-sponsor H.R. 5056 and support hearings that will promote direct negotiations with Iran without preconditions. Ask them to take this action with the goal of creating a new and productive dialogue between the two countries.

9. Legislator vote against, and senators filibuster against, any additional funds for the occupation of or any offensive operations in Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan.

10. Do not enact "sanctions" against Iran and any other nations.

11. Replace all military aid and weapons sales with foreign economic aid.

12. Global cooperation & diplomacy instead of bullying, threats and war.

Congress

13. Eliminate redundant organizations such as congressional authorization and appropriation committees and revamp congressional committees/subcommittees, government departments and agencies, etc. so that they are responsible for specific goals e.g. a housing subcommittee and the related department/agency would be responsible for insuring that affordable housing is available,

14. Congress take control of the regulation of commerce as required by the Constitution

a. Rescind free trade agreements, withdraw from NAFTA, CAFTA, WTO, and enact fair trade agreements under which workers rights are recognized, child labor prohibited, the environment protected, etc.

b. Curtail outsourcing, increase meaningfully foreign aid, eliminate military aid and help improve economic development throughout the world.

15. Enact a minimum wage increases, as a dollar and cents amount commensurate with inflation, since the previous increase in the minimum wage ten years ago.

16. Restricting annual banking interest rates to a maximum of 6% after increases from compounding are included.

17. Enact stock market reforms and strengthen the SEC.

18. Health Care, Medicare & Social Security

a. Make available meaningful, free, single payer physical, dental, and emotional health and long term care system, comprehensive, universal public health care and long term care (LTC) to be delivered by public and private resources under a streamlined medicare - paid

b. Reduce cost of health care by:

i. Paying doctors in public hospitals by the hour instead of by the patient

ii. Digitized health records

iii. Technologies

iv. Management type contracts.

v. Publicizing best practices

vi. Phasing out the use of latin terminology where it confuses the patient

vii. Opposes government funds, including medicaid and medicare, being used to buy health insurance from for-profit, private companies not forcing individuals to buy health insurance from for-profit companies.

19. Incorporate auxiliary services such as radiology, anesthesiology, pathology, etc.

a. Support embryonic stem cell research on any embryos that would have had to be destroyed anyway.

b. Prevent profiteering from private health care account investments. Reward private health care account holders who practice staying healthy.

Israel & Palestine

20. U. S, see to it that the UN provides security guarantees for Israel

21. Demand that Israel and Palestinian officials:

a. Negotiate honestly with one another

b. End the occupation of the West Bank.

c. Uphold the rights of Palestinians and Israelis guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention.

d. Resolve through negotiations all UN Resolutions and the right of return of the more than 700,000 Palestinians removed from their lands to create Israel.

e. Negotiate an end to Israeli's blockade of and control over Gaza and cease denying Palestinians access to jobs, travel, commerce, education, medical care, food and energy.

22. Cease all military aid and weapon sales to Israel. Use this funding to purchase selected Israeli settlements in the West Bank and turn them over to the Palestinians with the caveat to weapons free.

23. Require that Israel cease the use of any weapons supplied by the U.S. for any offensive purposes including operations in the Palestinian territories.

24. Provide immediate massive relief to the people of Gaza.

25. Provide for the timely establishment of a Palestinian State.

26. Demand that Palestinian officials recognize Israel as a state and that terrorist attacks cease.

27. Demand that Israel officials:

- a. Negotiate honestly with Palestinian officials.
- b. End the occupation of the West Bank.
- c. Uphold the rights of Palestinians guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention.
- d. Resolve through negotiations the 65 UN Resolutions against Israel and the right of return of the more than 700,000 Palestinians removed from their lands to create Israel.
- e. Encourage Israel to lift blockade of and control over Gaza..

28. Nuclear Weapons

- a. Provide full funding and attention to securing all nuclear weapons and nuclear weapon materials.
- b. Conduct meaningful negotiations with all of the world's nuclear powers and Iran and the phase out of all nuclear weapons.
- c. Immediately remove of all U.S. weapons of mass destruction including any nuclear weapons from the Mideast as required by Article 14 of UN Security Council resolution 687.
- d. Eliminate funding for nuclear weapon development and improvement programs including bombplex/"complex transformation", the reliable replacement warhead (RRW) programs and any other nuclear proliferation initiatives. This is required by Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

29. Eliminate funding for anti-ballistic missile systems being installed anywhere in the world.

30. Terrorism

- a. Treat acts of terrorism as crimes. Eliminate the use of the erroneous name "War on Terror" and funding for the War on Terror.
- b. Identify the underlying causes of terrorist acts and funding short and long range solutions to prevent terrorist acts.

31. Offensive Weapons System

- i. Establish the Department of Peace & Non Violence.
- b. Conduct comprehensive world-wide negotiations for reducing and ultimately eliminating offensive weapons.
- c. Drastically cut the bloated wasteful military budget by:
 - i. Rescinding the 2008/2009 War Supplemental.
 - ii. Modify the 2008 Defense Appropriations Act to eliminate/reduce spending on offensive weapon systems. e. g. convert aircraft refueller tanker to wild fire fighting planes.
 - iii. Conduct a phased conversion of a large portion of the armed services to humanitarian relief efforts, the National Guards, Reserves, and the Civil Conservation & Engineering Corps, as the world disarms.
- d. Do not design or deploy weapons in space.

32. Civil Rights, The Constitution & The Laws

- a. Enforce the rule of law with civil, human, economic, etc., rights observed for all the people of America and the world.
- b. Strengthen and make the United Nations, UN Agencies, UN peacekeeping forces, etc. more functional.

- c. Strengthen and make the International Criminal Court more functional.
- d. Opposes restrictions on Habeas Corpus and other rights, and will overturn the Military Commission Act (MCA) of 2006.
- e. Overturn the U.S. Patriot Act.
- f. Implement restorative justice programs based on confining only those who are a threat to society or themselves, restitution, contrition, keeping detainees busy, etc. throughout the criminal justice system.
- g. Cease the use of the metaphor "war on drugs", and reform many aspects of this program.
- h. Opposes the death penalty.
- i. Break up media monopolies by enforcing anti-trust laws and taxation.
- j. Retain Roe v. Wade, while taking actions to reduce unwanted pregnancies.
- k. Close prisons at Guantanamo immediately.
- l. Insure detainees are treated humanely, their rights are observed and "advanced interrogation techniques", warrant less arrests and searches, secret detentions and renditions.
- m. Rescind the FISA Amendment Act and insure warrant less wiretapping of people is not done.
- n. Oppose constitutional bans on same sex civil unions and marriages.
- o. Supports the right to same-sex civil unions
- p. Supports the right to same-sex marriages.
- q. Insures Internet neutrality.
- r. Oppose Presidential signing statements as unconstitutional, null and void.

33. Education

- a. Provide meaningful publicly supported pre-k through college education for all.
- b. Immediately provide publicly supported universal pre-kindergarten programs that ensure all children 3, 4 and 5 years old have access to a high-quality full-day, full-calendar-year pre-kindergarten education, H.R. 4060, the "Universal Pre-kindergarten Act" ("[http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.4060:](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.4060)"), or equivalent.
- c. Rescind certain features of "No Child Left Behind" including emphasis on test results, necessity to "teach to the test" and punitive measures based on low test scores.
- d. Use encouragement and nurturing to decrease/eliminate school drop outs and suspensions.
- e. Create more vocational education opportunities in high school for everyone and in particular for students who do not intend to go to immediately go to college bound.
- f. Track students after their graduation to determine to obtain feedback for schools.
- g. Students who do not master grade level reading, writing and arithmetic should receive special attention.
- h. Encourage parents to attend be or involved in children's schools, attend parent-teacher conferences, PTSA meetings, etc

34. Environment

- a. Attempt to observe the Kyoto Protocols and immediately hold a follow-up Kyoto conference.
- b. Support development of clean, renewable energy sources

- c. Do not permit ANWR or off-shore drilling at this time.
- d. Freeze the sell or lease of off-shore drilling areas.
- e. Opposes Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository.

35. Fair and Constitutional Immigration Legislation, Policies and Practices.

- a. Develop humane, fair and legal and constitutional immigration policy, legislation and practices.
- b. Take measures to reduce the underlying causes of increased immigration, including increasing foreign economic aid.
- c. Rescind funding for the immigration border fence
- d. Pass the USA Family Act (HR 440). This bill when passed will:
 - i. Offer immigrants a clear road map to legal status in the United States.
 - ii. Grants legal permanent residence to immigrants who have been living in the U.S. for five or more years
 - iii. Offers conditional legal status and work authorization to all law-abiding immigrants living in the United States for less than five years.
 - iv. Revokes current laws that bar certain people who live abroad from re-entering the U.S. for a period of three to 10 years, as well as portions of the law that place immigrants at risk of deportation for having committed minor, nonviolent offenses in the past.
- e. The U.S. cannot continue with a system in which millions of workers and their families live in fear and are subject to economic exploitation. There is no place in our country for second-class status.
- f. Until this bill or equivalent is pass, the rights of all the people including immigrants must be protected and fair and constitutional policies and practices put in place for all its people including immigrants. These policies and practices should recognize that the U.S. is an immigrant nation and affirms that we are a nation of the people and for the people not just citizens. Constitutional and other rights apply equally to apply equally to all the people of the U. S. not just citizens.

36. Transportation and Traffic

- a. Trains and trolleys including high speed interstate rail, light rail and city metro systems along existing right-of-ways
- b. No privately owned toll roads and toll lanes for example around the beltway
- c. Dedicated bus lanes on highways and in cities
- d. Natural gas powered and hybrid buses.
- e. Develop comprehensive open ended integrated international, national, regional, state, district, and locality plans that consider global warming, energy prices and progressing technologies.

37. Corporations

- a. End corporate personhood.
- b. Indict corporation executives who commit unlawful acts and not the corporation
- c. End corporation ownership of patents.

38. Personal Weapons

- a. Ban assault weapons.
- b. Require background checks for gun purchases

39. Government Spending

In a reiterative process:

- a. Examine past, current and planned spending and current spending priorities.
- b. Examine past, current and planned taxes and revenue generation.
- c. As necessary, adjust current and planned spending. Reduce/eliminate unneeded nuclear and other offensive weapons, corporation subsidies and other unnecessary government spending.
- d. Drastically reduce Department of Defense budgets and spending.
- e. As required by the Constitution return control to Congress of all Federal government appropriations, loans, grants, expenditures, and all other distribution of funds, including those made by the Federal Reserve.
- f. Oppose the Federal Reserve providing grants, loans, guarantees etc. to bond dealers, investment banks, stock brokers etc. without prior, express Congressional approval.
- g. Eliminate corporate welfare/subsidies.
- h. Eliminate funding for the School of the Americas.
- i. Use management and services type contracts that in general pay by the hours, day, or month instead of fixed price and profit as a percentage.
- j. Drastically reduced government spending on programs that do not promote the general welfare.

40. Congress, Lobbyists and Campaign Finances

- a. Get money, corporation executives and their lobbyists out of politics and insure that the people have control over their government.
- b. Eliminate pork, wasteful or unnecessary spending, and "pay backs" to special interest groups.
- c. Enact the twelve step program for congressional reform from "Wastrels of Defense: How Congress Sabotages U.S. Security", by Winslow Wheeler.

41. Taxes

- a. Fair, progressive income and property taxes.

42. Election Reform

- a. Determine and implement ways to identify, nominate and elect/confirm cooperative, ethical public officials, legislators, judges, executives, etc. throughout the public and private sectors who care for all people, promote the general welfare, follow the rule of law, protect peoples rights, etc.
- b. Eliminate gerrymandering, Use contiguous democratic logical districts (see www.fixthelines.com).
- c. Uniform, fair ballot access for federal candidates.
- d. Loosening third party ballot restrictions.
- e. Universal voter registration.
- f. Direct Election of the President by popular vote(<http://www.nationalpopularvote.com>) . Get rid of the Electoral College.

g. Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) which allows voters to rank their choices. If no candidate gets a majority of the vote – over 50% - then the lowest number of first place votes is eliminated and the second place votes are counted. This continues until a candidate secures a majority.

h. Extended Election Hours. Either hold elections on weekends or move it to a holiday like Columbus Day in October.

i. Media Access for third party contenders to include broadcast time on public airwaves and inclusion in debates.

j. Secure the Vote - Ensure the security of our voting instruments whether it is via a papertrail or some better method. Six years since the Florida debacle should have provided secure voting machines. Electronic machines subject to manipulation are not the answer.

k. Public Campaign Financing - Instituting a fair and equitable method of public campaign financing reduces taxpayer burden. Here's how: It costs the country more now under the current system that forces candidates to raise exorbitant sums of money from corporate and private donors (read: elitists). The winner is then beholden to the group of financiers that paid for that victory which creates a corrupt system of paybacks (no-bid contracts) and legislation (energy bill subsidizing oil and gas; prescription drug bill favoring pharmaceutical companies) that raids our Treasury at an enormous cost to the taxpayer - the real owners of our country.

l. Voting representation in congress for the citizens of the federal District of Columbia (which also gives them an Electoral College vote).

m. Recruit and encourage citizens to run for office as Independents because career politicians from the two major parties have proven and citizens are needed now to solve the complex issues of war, health care, environment, education, immigration, trade, net neutrality etc. which the current members of the two major parties are not willing to address. who only answer to campaign contributors

43. Openness and transparency in the public sector

44. Close gaps between the rich and poor

45. Regulated non usury interest rates

46. Eliminate unconstitutional patent extensions