

DWCNV MARCH 10 MEETING

BIDEN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Here is a copy of the Introduction and Bullet Points from the March 10 DNCNV Meeting. We hope you will use these to talk about how important it is for everyone to come out and vote for President Biden in November.

Welcome and thank you for coming out to this very important presentation. I know we are all suffering tremendous burn out from the onslaught of talking heads and urgent requests for money that assaults us numerous times each day. Yes, it is a turn-off. But we can't allow it to stop us from taking part in an election that could literally decide whether our country continues as a democracy (no matter how flawed that may be) or begins a desperate slide into tyranny and autocracy. I know that sounds dramatic- unfortunately it is quite true.

The voting numbers from super Tuesday should be setting off alarm bells for every Democrat in this country! Low turn-out. 10-15% of Democrats casting "uncommitted" votes. The margins are unbelievably slim- we cannot afford to have 10% of Democrats deciding to stay home because they think Biden is too old, or they don't like one particular policy he backed, or they think he didn't do enough. The Rolling Stones always said it best: You can't always get what you want; but you find, sometimes, you get what you need. It should be our anthem for the 2024 election!

Part of the problem seems to be that Democrats are humble. We don't like tooting our horns. We don't boast about our accomplishments. Someone recently said: "You can't take a book to a gun fight". This is where we are right now. We have a twice impeached, 4 times indicted orange incompetent with 91 criminal charges against him lying about his accomplishments in office. Boasting that he was the greatest President our country ever had. Meanwhile we have a man sitting in the White House who has served his country in public office since 1970- 54 years of dedicating his life to the protection and preservation of his country. He did this despite the loss of his wife and year-old daughter in 1972- traveling by Amtrak between Delaware and DC so he could be with his children Beau and Hunter. He

continued to serve his country despite the death of his son, Beau – from brain cancer- in 2015.

So that is why we are here today. To arm you with facts and information to take to the fight - and we need you to engage in this fight with anyone and everyone you can. Not just the folks who agree with you but EVERYONE! Do not accept the complaints about Biden's age or failings. Share his accomplishments. Most importantly, remind everyone- family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, the checker at the grocery store how utterly important this 2024 election is. Not just the Presidential election, but the down ballots as well. Remind folks that their complaints that Biden hasn't accomplished enough can be laid squarely and directly at the do-nothing House of Representatives led by the Republicans who have been too busy electing and removing Speakers, going after Hunter Biden, impeaching the Secretary of Homeland Security on fictitious charges and trying to impeach Biden without any charges at all- to do anything that might have benefited the people of the United States. The House generally passes 100-300 bills per year. They passed 27 bills in 2023!

We need to take back control of the House and increase our margin in the Senate.

We have eight topics to present to you today: Ageism and Democracy and Integrity; Economics and Health Care; the Environment; Reproductive Rights; Public Safety and Gun Violence Prevention; Immigration and lastly Foreign Policy. The plan is to give you all some understanding and talking points about President Biden's accomplishments in this area. I know this is just the tip of the iceberg and we may consider having another meeting about these issues if necessary, but we hope this will at least be a start. Each presenter has about 10 minutes to discuss their topic or topics. In consideration of our time restraints and the amount of material we have to offer, we ask that you hold your questions to the end. We will have a Q & A period. The presenters have also prepared bullet points regarding their topics for you to keep and use in your discussions with others.

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BIDEN'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS
TALKING POINTS ON AGEISM

1. **His age is a legitimate issue-** but consider the age and competency of his opponent.
2. **Experience-** Biden's experience is why he has been able to pass historic legislation to improve the economy, prevent gun violence, lower the cost of prescription drugs, and help veterans in a narrowly divided Congress. President Biden's steady leadership stands in sharp contrast to the chaos, criminality and incompetence of his opponent.
3. **Wisdom-** His wisdom in dealing with both foreign and domestic affairs is why we are still members of NATO and respected by leaders throughout the free world.
4. **Forward Thinking-** It's not the chronology, it's the age of your ideas. Contrast Biden's forward-looking views on climate change, abortion rights, and reasonable gun control with his opponent's actions: the Dobbs decision ending Roe v. Wade and a woman's right to make decisions about her own body; attacks and legislation against voting rights; attempts to deny women the right to contraceptives and IVF; ending affirmative action and the list goes on.
5. **Consider the Alternative-** when it comes down to it, which would you prefer? A President who is, yes, older- but someone who has proven his dedication to the protection and preservation of our democracy or a candidate who is merely 4 years younger but has proven his disdain for our democracy and our rule of law. Who has broken our rules regarding the protection of top-secret documents, has lied about his net worth and cheated our government out of millions of dollars in owed taxes, has raped women and committed election interference to the tune of 91 criminal charges. Even worse than all that- this individual has made no secret out of his plans to destroy democracy. To punish his opponents, to hand the Ukraine over to

Vladimir Putin, to take our country out of NATO and to align himself and our country with the vilest dictators on this planet.

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Biden Administration Accomplishments

INTEGRITY AND DEMOCRACY

- 1. BE PROUD OF A PRESIDENT WHO CONSISTENTLY SPEAKS ABOUT OUR DEMOCRACY AND INTEGRITY AND BELIEVES IN ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY- THEIR FREEDOM, THEIR NEED TO WORK AND EARN A LIVING WAGE, THEIR RIGHT TO CHOOSE HOW THEY WILL LIVE THEIR LIVES.**
2. On January 5 this year, Biden spoke: “Today, we’re here to answer the most important of questions . Is Democracy still America’s sacred cause...” This is not rhetorical, academic or hypothetical. Whether democracy is still America’s sacred cause is the most urgent question of our time, and it’s what the 2024 election is all about.”
3. The 2020 election tested American democracy- Biden saw the strength and integrity of the people who would not allow our election process to be compromised. “Ordinary citizens, state election officials, the American judicial system had put the Constitution first and sometimes at their peril...” (Biden remarks, Jan. 5, 2024)
4. Biden has promised: “Today, I make this sacred pledge to you. The defense, protection and preservation of American democracy will remain, as it has been, the central cause of my presidency.”
5. **THIS CANNOT BE EMPHASIZED TOO MUCH: DEMOCRACY IS ON THE BALLOT, YOUR FREEDOM IS ON THE BALLOT.** Do not let the noise about age, or immigration, or Israel, or complaints that the

Biden Administration hasn't done enough drown out the single, principle issue of this election: **DEMOCRACY IS ON THE BALLOT! YOUR FREEDOM IS ON THIS BALLOT!**

THE BIDEN BOOM!

Key things to remember:

***First:** Who gets the credit and who gets the blame?*

***Second:** Data doesn't lie, but the people who use data do.*

BIDEN'S ECONOMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Strongest economic recovery in more than 50 years
 - **Nearly 15 million jobs created!**
 - Unemployment has dropped dramatically from the pandemic High, and remained below 4% for more than two years.

- Steady economic growth, despite predictions of catastrophe
 - Wages rising as workers gain more negotiating power
 - Inflation is coming down and wages are rising faster than prices
 - Massive infrastructure investments, including in clean energy (Inflation Reduction Act)

- Working to make the tax system more fair, including raising the child tax credit that reduced child poverty
- Nearly 20 million people have had their student loan debt cancelled, and Another 20 million got a reduction
- Cut uninsured rate to historic low
- Cutting prescription drug prices for seniors

DWCNV MARCH, 2024 TALKING POINTS: BIDEN'S PROGRESS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

President Biden enacted the largest environmental funding laws EVER by an American government, including the **largest investment in clean water in American history**. His initiatives deliver funding to **every single state and territory in the country** to expand access to clean drinking water, replace lead pipes, improve wastewater and sanitation infrastructure, and remove PFAS contamination in water.

Biden restored integrity, competence and funding to Environmental Protection Agency, essential actions because he came into office following the administration, Trump's, with the *worst* environmental record of any American leader since the creation of the EPA in 1970. Biden added 1 billion dollars to the EPA budget, increased staffing by nearly 1,000 and returned competent and ethical leadership to the Agency.

Biden's **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law strengthens and modernizes America's electric grid**. Provisions of this Law will reduce the impacts from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, increase U.S. capacity of renewable energy resources, mitigate factors that lead to wildfires, and deploy advanced technologies to provide essential services across the entire country, including \$918 million for projects such as new dams, flood prevention projects and improving watershed infrastructure in previously underserved communities.

President Biden has initiated programs that will significantly reduce emissions of the most potent greenhouse gas pollutants, HFCs and methane. These gases are emitted in smaller quantities than carbon dioxide but trap much more heat, pound for pound. Under Biden's direction, the Senate ratified the international Kigali Amendment on reducing HFCs, the EPA has issued regulations to phase down HFCs emissions and Biden has released an updated Methane Action Plan which includes 50 *specific and fully funded* measures to reduce methane production and methane release.

The Biden administration has conserved, or is in the process of conserving, more than 24 million acres of public lands across the country. Biden's Inflation Reduction Act provides \$700 million to advance conservation, restoration, and resilience activities on our public lands; and \$500 million to support additional staffing at the National Park Service.

TALKING POINTS: BIDEN'S PROGRESS ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

1. Rescinding the Mexico City Policy, which bans federal funding for foreign organizations that provide abortion counseling or referrals.
2. Reversing the Title X "gag rule", which prohibited health clinics receiving federal funding from referring patients for abortions.
3. Restoring funding to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which provides family planning and reproductive health services globally.
4. Expressing support for the Women's Health Protection Act, which aims to protect abortion rights at the federal level.
5. Nominating judges who support reproductive rights, including Ketanji Brown Jackson for the Supreme Court.
6. Reversing Trump-era policies that restricted access to reproductive healthcare and birth control.

Biden's Accomplishments on Gun Violence Prevention

- 1) Biden brought together Democrats and Republicans to pass the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA), signed into law on June 25, 2022. BSCA is the first significant legislation to address the epidemic of gun violence in three decades.
- 2) Appointed Steven Dettelbach, a champion of gun violence prevention, as Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (ATF). He was sworn in on July 13, 2022.
- 3) Established the first ever White Office on Gun Violence Prevention on September 22, 2023, finally elevating the issue and recognizing it for the crisis it is.
- 4) Since he took office, President Biden has taken 21 significant Executive Actions to address gun violence including initiatives to keep dangerous weapons off our streets and out of the wrong hands; make progress on reducing community violence; provide law enforcement with the tools and resources they need to reduce gun violence; and actions to address the root causes of gun violence.
- 5) His combined actions have already generated meaningful results. *Under the Biden-Harris Administration, there has been a significant decrease in crime – including in 2023, the largest yearly decline in homicides ever.*

Bullets for Panel Discussion on Immigration

- Immigrants don't cause crime. Undocumented immigrants are not more prone to crime than native-born Americans; in fact, they tend to be more law-abiding than native-born Americans. Violent crime rates (especially homicides in cities) have fallen sharply during the Biden Administration.
- Our economy needs immigrant workers to sustain our workforce and contribute to our Social Security and Medicare funds. The economy's growth under Biden is in large part due to the foreign labor force. Economists at the Federal Reserve stated, "You can't grow like this with just the native workforce. It isn't possible."
- In his first three years, Biden has taken 535 actions to improve our immigration system, compared with 472 actions by Trump during his four years in office.
- The bipartisan border bill that Biden supports was negotiated over four months and is the most sweeping immigration legislation to come before Congress in four decades. Trump ordered Republicans to take it off the table so that he can accuse Biden of inaction on immigration in the upcoming election.
- The Constitution gives sole authority to Congress to regulate immigration. Biden is trying to navigate immigration reform through legal means, while Trump thinks reform should be accomplished through executive actions regardless of whether they can be upheld in court.

FOREIGN POLICY BULLET POINTS

--National Security

While domestic terrorism concerns have emerged, focus on threats globally and regionally continues to be in sight. Venezuela has been a particular focus of attention for the Biden administration due to the chaos engendered by its leader Nicolas Maduro. Economic sanctions had been effected under the Trump administration in an effort to effect regime change. Under Biden, steps have been taken to ease the Trump sanctions to encourage fair elections. US support for NATO is a matter of record as is the administration's efforts in the Middle East toward Israel, Palestine, and Iran.

--Economic and Trade interests

Since its founding, the US has engaged in vigorous trade and economic relations with nations outside the continent. Import of natural resources from abroad and export sales sustain the nation's wealth including labor and jobs. This aspect of economic benefit to the US is ignored by GOP House members as they criticize military aid to Ukraine. For the most part, the Trump administration following an isolationist agenda sought to punish trading nations with import and export tariffs. Under Biden, the administration has encouraged manufacturing activity in the US to reduce export tariffs to compete more favorably with other nations particularly China, creating a more balanced set of trading relationships and avoiding trade wars and hostility.

--Energy

US energy policy for decades has largely been driven by efforts to achieve oil independence with the objective of not being reliant upon others and the object of energy leverage. At a recent rally, Donald Trump chanted "drill, drill, drill" as his policy. Under Clinton's NAFTA, Canada, Mexico, and the US adopted a continental policy goal of oil independence which flourished under the Obama administration propelling the US to a net exporter of crude oil in 2019. Reliance upon "stable" continental sources reflects one nuance of foreign policy. The Biden administration has continued the Clinton/Obama policies to sustain existing energy independence.

--Crises

Humanitarian crises compounded by war test the capacity of the US to respond in the international sphere. The GOP has no formally publicized platform in this regard. At the same time, the Biden administration has been crystal clear about US support for Ukraine and its objectives to reign in the violence in the Israel-Gaza conflict. Africa continues to be an object of concern for foreign policy makers with Russia's Wagner Group militarily active in six African nations. Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) have formed a common financial forum for development about which GOP leaders are silent. SoS Blinken has visited 9 African nations as a signal of US willingness to engage in relations.

--Treaties and Agreements

A principal component of US foreign policy is treaties such as NATO. Since 1949, thirty-two nations have made NATO a bulwark against Russian aggression. Trump has consistently indicated that, in his watch, the US might not honor its commitments to those nations. While the US does not officially recognize Taiwan, the two cooperate in mutually beneficial trade agreements which, in turn, sustain a component of US interests in the Far East particularly with respect to North Korea and China. Trump's fascination with the North Korean dictator rattled US allies like Japan and South Korea. Trump's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear agreement has likely led directly to Iran's terrorist support for the Houthis in attacks upon shipping commerce in the Straits of Hormuz. Such treaties and agreements transcend national boundaries and encourage peaceful cooperation among nations.