

2004 U.S. SENATE ELECTIONS HAVE HIGH STAKES FOR AMERICA'S MIDDLE CLASS

DRUM MAJOR INSTITUTE REPORT SHOWS WHICH CANDIDATES FOR RE-ELECTION VOTED WITH THE MIDDLE CLASS IN 2003

New York City, September 1, 2004 — In 2004, voters in 34 states will choose a U.S. Senator to represent their interests in Washington D.C. Of those 34 races, 16 will feature incumbent U.S. Senators with a history of supporting policies to strengthen and expand the middle class, and ten will feature incumbent U.S. Senators with a history of voting against the interests of the middle class in 2003, according to a report from the non-partisan Drum Major Institute for Public Policy (DMI).

This special report is based on the findings of DMI'S "Middle Class 2003: How Congress Voted," the first-ever, first-annual scorecard of votes on legislation that significantly impacts America's middle class. Representatives were graded on their votes on key legislation that helps the middle class (such as the American Dream Downpayment Act, the Pharmaceutical Market Access Act) and hurts it (such as Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act and the Death Tax Repeal Act). In it we spotlight the 2003 voting records of the 26 incumbent U.S. Senators seeking re-election in 2004 on issues important to the middle class.

Based on their votes, Senators Evan Bayh (D-IN), Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Tom Daschle (D-SD), Christopher Dodd (D-CT), Byron Dorgan (D-ND), Russ Feingold (D-WI), Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Patty Murray (D-WA), Harry Reid (D-NV), Charles Schumer (D-NY), Arlen Specter (R-PA), and Ron Wyden (D-OR) earned a grade of B or better for their support of the middle class in 2003.

Senators Robert Bennett (R-UT), Sam Brownback (R-KS), Jim Bunning (R-KY), Christopher S. Bond (R-MO), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Charles Grassley (R-IA), Judd Gregg (R-NH), John McCain (R-AZ), Richard Shelby (R-AL), George Voinovich (R-OH) earned a grade of C or worse for their support of the middle class in 2003.

"We hope that this scorecard will serve as a yardstick for middle-class Americans to measure how effectively Congress is acting in their interest," said DMI President Fernando Ferrer. "We believe that better policy will be created, and Americans will live better lives, when middle-class Americans know how their legislators vote on the issues that matter the most to them—and, just as important, when legislators know that their middle-class constituents are watching."

The Senate, overall, earned a B for its support of the financial stability of the middle class—but this average masks real disparities. While almost all—96%—Democratic Senators received an A, fully one-quarter of Republican Senators received an F for their failure to support the middle class.

The Drum Major Institute for Public Policy is a practical, progressive think tank that provides a unique lens. Through projects like www.themiddleclass.org, the monthly Injustice Index, and now, the Congressional Report Card, DMI focuses on how social and economic policy impacts the middle class. DMI is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to challenging the tired orthodoxies of both the right and the left. The goal: progressive public policy for social and economic fairness. DMI's approach is unwavering: We seek to change policy by conducting research into overlooked, but important social and economic issues, by leveraging our strategic relationships to engage policymakers and opinion leaders in our work, and by offering platforms to amplify the ideas of those who work for social and economic fairness.

Originally called the Drum Major Foundation, DMI was founded by Harry Wachtel, lawyer and advisor to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the turbulent years of the civil rights movement. DMI was relaunched in 1999 by New York attorney William Wachtel, Harry's son, Martin Luther King III, and Ambassador Andrew Young.

To read "Middle Class 2003: How Congress Voted," or to learn how each state congressional delegation voted on issues important to middle-class families in 2003, please visit www.themiddleclass.org. For more information about the Drum Major Institute, please visit www.drummajorinstitute.org.

DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN ALABAMA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating for families in Alabama struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Alabama, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Alabama experienced a net loss of 38,600 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- More than 42,000 Alabama families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Alabama increased by 18 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$3,672 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. SHELBY (R-AL) EARNED A C FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Richard Shelby has served in the U.S. Senate since 1987. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a fourth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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Middle Class 2003: How Congress Voted issues each member of Congress, as well as the House and Senate as a whole, a letter grade based on their votes on selected pieces of legislation of importance to the middle class in 2003.

Overall, the Senate, earned a B for its support of the financial stability of the middle class. However, while almost all—96%—Democratic Senators received an A, fully one-quarter of Republican Senators received an F for their failure to support the middle class.

The House of Representatives, overall, did a poor job of voting with the middle class, receiving a C.

To learn how Senate and Congressional representatives in your state voted on issues impacting the middle-class, please visit: <http://www.themiddleclass.org/>

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN ALASKA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Alaska struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Alaska, the middle class is being squeezed:

- More than 23,000 Alaska residents were unemployed, and nearly 10,000 of those suffering long-term unemployment exhausted their state and federal benefits in April 2004 without finding work
- Typical household incomes in Alaska fell by \$1,206 between 2001 and 2002, and
- Families spent more than \$6,019 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. MURKOWSKI (R-AK) EARNED A **B FOR HER SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Lisa Murkowski has served in the U.S. Senate since 2002. In 2004, she is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

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THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN ARIZONA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Arizona struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Arizona, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Arizona experienced a net loss of 69,000 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$9,684 (21.7 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- Nearly 32,000 Arizona families filed for bankruptcy in 2003, and
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Arizona increased by 18 percent for the 2003-04 academic year.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. MCCAIN (R-AZ) EARNED A C FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

John McCain has served in the U.S. Senate since 1986. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a fourth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN ARKANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Arkansas struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Arkansas, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Arkansas has lost more than 31,000 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- Nearly 32,000 Arkansas families filed for bankruptcy in 2003, and
- Of the more than 73,000 residents that were unemployed in April 2004, more than 14,100 exhausted their unemployment benefits without being able to find work.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. LINCOLN (D-AR) EARNED AN **A FOR HER SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Blanche Lincoln has served in the U.S. Senate since 1998. In 2004, she is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN CALIFORNIA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in California struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In California, the middle class is being squeezed:

- California has lost more than 323,000 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- More than 141,000 California families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- Typical household incomes fell by \$725, and
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in California increased by 35 percent for the 2003-04 academic year.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. BOXER (D-CA) EARNED AN **A FOR HER SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Barbara Boxer has served in the U.S. Senate since 1993. In 2004, she is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Connecticut struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Connecticut, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Connecticut experienced a net loss of 49,700 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- Nearly 32,000 Connecticut families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Connecticut increased by 11 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$4,352 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. DODD (D-CT) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Christopher Dodd has served in the U.S. Senate since 1993. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN HAWAII AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Hawaii struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Hawaii, the middle class is being squeezed:

- More than 22,000 Hawaii residents were unemployed, and nearly 3,000 of those suffering long-term unemployment exhausted their state and federal benefits in April 2004 without finding work
- Typical household incomes in Hawaii declined by \$3,262 in 2002, and
- Families spent more than \$5,505 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. INOUE (D-HI) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Daniel Inouye has served in the U.S. Senate since 1962. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a eighth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
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VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

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THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN IDAHO AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Idaho struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Idaho, the middle class is being squeezed:

- More than 223,000 Idaho residents went without health insurance in 2003
- Nearly 56,000 Idaho families filed for bankruptcy in 2003,
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Idaho increased by 10 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$4,814 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. CRAPO (R-ID) EARNED AN **F FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Michael Crapo has served in the U.S. Senate since 1999. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
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THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN INDIANA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Indiana struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Indiana, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Indiana has lost more than 67,000 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$10,261 (24.6 percent) less than those lost in 2001,
- Nearly 56,000 Indiana families filed for bankruptcy in 2003, and
- Typical household incomes declined by \$813 in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. BAYH (D-IN) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Evan Bayh has served in the U.S. Senate since 1998. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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The House of Representatives, overall, did a poor job of voting with the middle class, receiving a C.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN IOWA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Iowa struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Iowa, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Iowa experienced a net loss of 31,400 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- Nearly 10,000 Iowa families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Iowa increased by 19 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$6,198 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. GRASSLEY (R-IA) EARNED A C FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Charles Grassley has served in the U.S. Senate since 1980. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a fifth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN KANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Kansas struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Kansas, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Kansas experienced a net loss of 30,300 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- More than 16,000 Kansas families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Kansas increased by 18 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$4,889 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. BROWNBACK (R-KS) EARNED A D FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Sam Brownback has served in the U.S. Senate since 1996. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.
- Voted against legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN KENTUCKY AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Kentucky struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Kentucky, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Kansas experienced a net loss of 37,500 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- More than 16,000 Kentucky families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Kentucky increased by 14 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$4,368 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. BUNNING (R-KY) EARNED A C FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Jim Bunning has served in the U.S. Senate since 1998. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN MARYLAND AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Maryland struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Maryland, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Maryland has lost more than 245,100 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- More than 34,000 Maryland families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- More than 730,000 Maryland residents went without health insurance in 2003, and
- Families spent more than \$4,774 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. MIKULSKI (D-MD) EARNED AN **A FOR HER SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Barbara Mikulski has served in the U.S. Senate since 1986. In 2004, she is seeking re-election to a fourth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN MISSOURI AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Missouri struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Missouri, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Missouri experienced a net loss of 204,000 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- More than 37,830 Missouri families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university increased by 18 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$4,784 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. BOND (R-MO) EARNED A C FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Christopher Bond has served in the U.S. Senate since 1992. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN NEVADA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Nevada struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Nevada, the middle class is being squeezed:

- More than 51,276 Nevada residents were unemployed, and nearly 10,400 of those suffering long-term unemployment exhausted their state and federal benefits in April 2004 without finding work
- Typical household incomes in Nevada declined by \$1,413 in 2002, and
- Families spent more than \$4,822 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. REID (D-NV) EARNED A B FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Harry Reid has served in the U.S. Senate since 1986. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a fourth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
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- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in New Hampshire struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In New Hampshire, the middle class is being squeezed:

- New Hampshire experienced a net loss of 10,300 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$11,225 (25.4 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in New Hampshire increased by 8 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$6,520 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. GREGG (R-NH) EARNED AN **F FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Judd Gregg has served in the U.S. Senate since 1995. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted against legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN NEW YORK AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in New York struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In New York, the middle class is being squeezed:

- New York has lost more than 131,100 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- More than 75,000 New York families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in New York increased by 27 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$8,060 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. SCHUMER (D-NY) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Charles Schumer has served in the U.S. Senate since 1998. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
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VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN NORTH DAKOTA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in North Dakota struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In North Dakota, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Typical household incomes in North Dakota fell by \$695 in 2001-2002
- Families spent more than \$6,019 in childcare expense for a single child in 2003
- More than 69,000 residents were uninsured, and
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in North Dakota increased by 13 percent for the 2003-04 academic year.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. DORGAN (D-ND) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Byron Dorgan has served in the U.S. Senate since 1992. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN OHIO AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Ohio struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Ohio, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Ohio has lost more than 163,500 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- Nearly 90,000 Ohio families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Ohio increased by 17 percent, and
- Families spent more than \$5,672 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. VOINOVICH (R-OH) EARNED A C FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

George Voinovich has served in the U.S. Senate since 1999. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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Middle Class 2003: How Congress Voted issues each member of Congress, as well as the House and Senate as a whole, a letter grade based on their votes on selected pieces of legislation of importance to the middle class in 2003.

Overall, the Senate, earned a B for its support of the financial stability of the middle class. However, while almost all—96%—Democratic Senators received an A, fully one-quarter of Republican Senators received an F for their failure to support the middle class.

The House of Representatives, overall, did a poor job of voting with the middle class, receiving a C.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN OREGON AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Oregon struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Oregon, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Oregon experienced a net loss of 31,200 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- More than 25,000 Oregon families filed for bankruptcy in 2003
- Typical household incomes fell by \$1,289 in 2002, and
- Families spent more than \$5,580 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. WYDEN (D-OR) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Ron Wyden has served in the U.S. Senate since 1996. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN PENNSYLVANIA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Pennsylvania struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Pennsylvania, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Pennsylvania has lost more than 157,000 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$12,456 (28.9 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- Nearly 60,000 Pennsylvania families filed for bankruptcy in 2003, and
- Families spent more than \$6,188 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. SPECTER (R-PA) EARNED A **B FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Arlen Specter has served in the U.S. Senate since 1980. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a fifth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN SOUTH DAKOTA AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in South Dakota struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In South Dakota, the middle class is being squeezed:

- More than 85,000 South Dakota residents were uninsured in 2003
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$7,801 (25.7 percent) less than jobs lost in 2001
- Personal bankruptcy filings increased by more than 38.8 percent in 2003
- Families spent more than \$4,243 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. DASCHLE (D-SD) EARNED AN A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Tom Daschle has served in the U.S. Senate since 1986. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a fourth term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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Overall, the Senate, earned a B for its support of the financial stability of the middle class. However, while almost all—96%—Democratic Senators received an A, fully one-quarter of Republican Senators received an F for their failure to support the middle class.

The House of Representatives, overall, did a poor job of voting with the middle class, receiving a C.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN UTAH AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Utah struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Utah, the middle class is being squeezed:

- More than 27,000 residents with employer-provided health insurance lost their benefits between 2000 and 2002
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$7,342 (20.0 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Utah increased by 8 percent for the 2003-04 academic year, and
- Families spent more than \$4,550 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. BENNETT (R-UT) EARNED A D FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.

Robert Bennett has served in the U.S. Senate since 1998. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a second term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted for the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted against the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation.
- Voted against legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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Overall, the Senate, earned a B for its support of the financial stability of the middle class. However, while almost all—96%—Democratic Senators received an A, fully one-quarter of Republican Senators received an F for their failure to support the middle class.

The House of Representatives, overall, did a poor job of voting with the middle class, receiving a C.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN VERMONT AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Vermont struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Vermont, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Vermont experienced a net loss of 31,100 jobs from January 2001 to March 2004
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$11,210 (26.4 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- The cost of tuition at a four-year public university in Vermont increased by 7 percent, and
- Families spent more than \$5,980 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. LEAHY (D-VT) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Patrick Leahy has served in the U.S. Senate since 1974. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a seventh term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

In May 2004, The Drum Major Institute for Public Policy (DMI) sent every Congressman and Senator in America home to their constituents with a report card.

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN WASHINGTON AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Washington struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Washington, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Washington has lost more than 64,200 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$18,400 (33.7 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- More than 40,000 Washington families filed for bankruptcy in 2003, and
- Families spent more than \$6,604 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. MURRAY (D-WA) EARNED AN **A FOR HER SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Patty Murray has served in the U.S. Senate since 1992. In 2004, she is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

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DID YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MAKE THE MIDDLE-CLASS GRADE?

THE MIDDLE-CLASS SQUEEZE IN WISCONSIN AND THE UNITED STATES

Since January 2001, the national economy has lost more than 1.2 million private sector jobs, wages have declined by more than \$1,400 for the average worker, and the cost of everything from a gallon of milk to a college education have significantly increased.

The middle-class squeeze has been particularly devastating on families in Wisconsin struggling with high unemployment, high fixed costs, and high anxiety about their financial security.

In Wisconsin, the middle class is being squeezed:

- Wisconsin has lost nearly 75,000 manufacturing jobs alone since 2001
- New jobs created in 2001 paid \$9,312 (23.2 percent) less than those lost in 2001
- Nearly 30,000 Wisconsin families filed for bankruptcy in 2003, and
- Families spent more than \$6,104 in childcare expenses for a single child in 2003.

ACCORDING TO MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED



SEN. FEINGOLD (D-WA) EARNED AN **A FOR HIS SUPPORT OF THE MIDDLE CLASS.**

Russ Feingold has served in the U.S. Senate since 1992. In 2004, he is seeking re-election to a third term in office.

VOTES TO SUPPORT THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- Voted against the Jobs and Growth Tax Act (HR 2), the second substantial tax cut of the Bush administration
- Voted for the Unemployment Compensation Amendment (HR 2185) to extend unemployment compensation for out-of-work Americans who exhausted their benefits
- Voted for the American Dream Downpayment Act (S 811), to help low-income Americans afford a home
- Voted for legislation to provide states with additional childcare funding for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients (S. Amdt. 2937)
- Voted for legislation (S. Amdt. 2660) to discourage U.S. firms contracting with the U.S. government from "outsourcing" a portion of their workload overseas
- Voted for the Overtime Compensation Amendment (S. Amdt. 1580) to protect U.S. workers' ability to collect federal overtime compensation

VOTES AGAINST THE MIDDLE CLASS:

- No votes against the middle class

ABOUT MIDDLE CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

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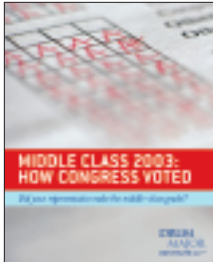
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THEMIDDLECLASS.ORG

June 2004 / The Drum Major Institute for Public Policy has created Themiddleclass.org to serve as an online headquarters for information about today's squeezed middle class. It's a toolkit for those who make, influence and monitor public policy on the state of the middle class and the policies that could impact their lives. There you will find: The latest news on the plight of our struggling middle class; talking points; an interactive way to find out how Congress voted on the legislation most important to America's middle class in 2003; a comparison between President George W. Bush and Senator John Kerry on the issues, and more.



MIDDLE-CLASS 2003: HOW CONGRESS VOTED

May 2004 / Today's middle-class families are deeply concerned about making ends meet, affording everyday essentials, saving for the future, and avoiding the bankruptcy that has become nearly epidemic. This dangerous trend requires increased awareness by citizens and increased political urgency by lawmakers. "Middle Class 2003: How Congress Voted" issues each member of Congress, as well as the House and Senate as a whole, a letter grade based on their 2003 votes on selected pieces of legislation.



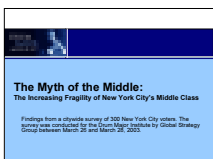
THE MYTH OF THE MIDDLE? CAMPAIGN 2004 ON AMERICA'S MIDDLE CLASS

January 2004 / This survey of the candidates for the 2004 Democratic nomination for President looks at their positions on issues important to the middle class, including raising the minimum wage, expanding access to health care, making college education more affordable, and restructuring the tax code to benefit middle-class families. Candidates also identified the major challenges facing the middle class, and what they would do as president to restore economic mobility to poor and working-class Americans.



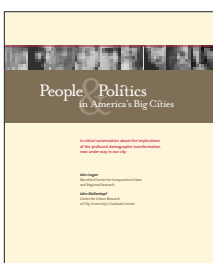
THE 2003 DMI YEAR IN REVIEW

December 2003 / What a difference a year makes. The DMI Year in Review provides a critical context in which to evaluate the direction of policy in America today. From Medicare reform to the Bush tax cuts to the squeezing of state budgets, the DMI Year in Review offers a scathing indictment of the national administration while highlighting the positive developments of 2003, from the recognition of the ongoing need for affirmative action in our universities to the preservation of the Child Tax Credit for working families with school-aged children. The DMI Year in Review features "The Best and Worst of Public Policy," "The State of the States," and "Best of the ProgBlog," as well as important statistics in the "Injustice Index," and commentary from prominent Americans on the 2004 progressive agenda.



THE MYTH OF THE MIDDLE: THE INCREASING FRAGILITY OF NEW YORK CITY'S MIDDLE CLASS

September 2003 / In September 2003, the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy released "The Myth of the Middle," a survey of 300 New York City likely voters about their economic security and concerns. The survey reveals that: 1) Being middle class in New York City isn't what it used to be; 2) Many New York City voters will identify as middle class and say they feel secure, but are rarely able to save for the future and find it increasingly difficult to make ends meet; and 3) New Yorkers are worried about education, health care, and affordable housing, and want critical services protected.



PEOPLE AND POLITICS IN AMERICA'S BIG CITIES

May 2003 / The changing face of America is creating new challenges and opportunities for America's urban centers. The emergence of new immigrant minority groups has transformed the competition for political power in large cities from one that pits native minorities against whites to one that pits new immigrants not only against whites, but also against native minority groups. This report, commissioned by the Drum Major Institute for Public Policy, The Century Foundation, and Metropolitan College of New York, and written by leading demographers John Mollenkopf and John Logan, analyzes the 2001 mayoral and city council elections in New York and Los Angeles to determine the impact of these demographic changes on urban democracy.

WHO IS THE DRUM MAJOR INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY?

The Drum Major Institute for Public Policy is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to challenging the tired orthodoxies of both the right and the left. The goal: progressive public policy for social and economic fairness. DMI's approach is unwavering: We do not issue reports to see our name in print or hold forums for the sake of mere talk. We seek to change policy by conducting research into overlooked, but important social and economic issues, by leveraging our strategic relationships to engage policymakers and opinion leaders in our work, and by offering platforms to amplify the ideas of those who are working for social and economic fairness.

Originally called the Drum Major Foundation, DMI was founded by Harry Wachtel, lawyer and advisor to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the turbulent years of the civil rights movement. DMI was relaunched in 1999 by New York attorney William Wachtel, Harry's son, Martin Luther King III, and Ambassador Andrew Young. Today, energized by the nationally recognized leadership of Fernando Ferrer, DMI is committed to adding a rigorous progressive voice to compete in the marketplace of ideas.

From releasing nationally recognized studies into our increasingly fragile middle class, the relationship between schools and communities and the impact of changing demographics on politics, to launching an exciting and frequently visited web site that serves as a source of ideas and argument, DMI has demonstrated the strength of its mission and strategy.

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