

# CONTRACT *from* AMERICA

## TALKING POINTS

### **What is the Contract from America and who initiated it?**

The Contract from America is a grassroots-generated, crowd-sourced, bottom-up call for real **economic conservative** and **good governance** reform in Congress. It is from the PEOPLE, not written in a closed-door room by a group of politicians. It is written by US- the Employers- NOT the Employees.

The Contract from America initiative has over 100 coalition partners, and is led by Tea Party Patriots, an umbrella group of hundreds of tea parties around the country. It was developed within the decentralized tea party and 912 movements. A Houston Tea Party Society activist (Ryan Hecker), developed the concept of creating a grassroots-generated call for reform prior to the April 15, 2009 Tax Day Tea Party rallies.

### **Where can people go and view the final document?**

They can go to [www.contractfromamerica.ORG](http://www.contractfromamerica.ORG) to view the document, sign the Contract, and get involved in this grassroots push to be heard.

### **What was the process used to choose the ideas that are part of the Contract from America?**

Tea Party Patriots promoted and helped launch the Contract from America site on September 1, 2009. From September 2009 to January 2010, hundreds of thousands of freedom-loving Americans submitted and debated thousands of ideas on the Contract from America website. Thousands of grassroots leaders nationwide also did their part by filling out a series of surveys that helped narrow the boldest and most viable ideas down to 21. Then, over the past month and a half, **nearly half a million (450,000+) votes were cast**. This is a true grassroots, bottom-up initiative.

### **How many coalition partners besides your group are involved in this effort? How many tea parties/grassroots groups around the country are unveiling the Contract from America on April 15<sup>th</sup>?**

There are over 100 coalition partners unveiling the Contract from America at tea parties around the country on April 15<sup>th</sup>.



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## **How many votes were cast for the final Contract from America?**

Nearly a half million. (450,000+)

## **Is this a Republican document?**

No, this is a non-partisan grassroots document calling for good governance and economic conservative reform. All Americans, regardless of party affiliation, strongly want good governance reform, and most believe strongly in the free market and fiscal responsibility. Candidates and elected officials of all parties will be asked to sign this document by their constituents across the country. We hope everyone joins this big tent effort.

## **Did Tea Party Patriots or another group craft this document?**

This document is composed of ideas crafted by average Americans across the country, not by any one individual or group, in a transparent effort at [www.contractfromamerica.ORG](http://www.contractfromamerica.ORG). Tea Party Patriots simply promoted this process. It did not craft the ideas themselves. All coalition partners also support the grassroots process. They were not responsible for crafting the ideas.

## **Why are there no social conservative issues on this list?**

The tea party movement is agnostic on social issues. We are united in a call for good governance reform and behind the principles of fiscal responsibility, constitutionally limited government, and free markets. We believe strongly that a document that focuses on these issues unites a much broader group of people together, across party lines.

The goal of this document is to unify this movement behind a call for proactive reform. That would be impossible if it was divisive.

Other interest groups can propose their own agendas. This Contract from America does not exclude others from expressing their viewpoints. However, our movement is an economic conservative and good governance movement, and this document reflects the big-tent approach on which this movement was founded.

## **Do you agree with all the ideas/any particular idea on this list?**

The beauty of this process is that we don't have to believe all the ideas on the list. We support giving American people the voice to make a real difference. Our promise in supporting the document is to help bring each idea in the final document to a vote in the first year. It is not to necessarily support every idea on the list, as most people do not agree on every single issue all of the time.



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**What next after the April 15<sup>th</sup> unveiling?**

We will demand that candidates and elected officials sign the Contract from America and show that they are listening to us now! We are their employers.

**Who is funding this project? Is there a big donor?**

This is a purely volunteer effort. Everyone has donated their time to support this project. Major funding has not been required.

**Any specific question which you do not know the answer to?**

Please refer all such questions to Ryan Hecker, [ryan.hecker@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.hecker@gmail.com) or 215-880-2430.

