

Say NO to Newt Gingrich

Research by Julie Borowski

Medicare Part D

- Newt was a huge supporter of Medicare Part D.
- Newt's "Conservatives Should Vote Yes on Medicare" Wall Street Journal Op-ed in 2003: "Every conservative member of Congress should vote for this Medicare bill. It is the most important reorganization of our nation's healthcare system since the original Medicare Bill of 1965 and the largest and most positive change in direction for the health system in 60 years for people over 65... If you are a fiscal conservative who cares about balancing the federal budget, there may be no more important vote in your career than one in support of this bill."¹

Reality: "The drug benefit now costs taxpayers over \$60 billion a year and has almost \$16 trillion in unfunded liabilities."²

Individual Mandate

- Newt Gingrich on *Meet the Press* October 3, 1993: "I am for people, individuals—exactly like automobile insurance—individuals having health insurance and being required to have health insurance. And I am prepared to vote for a voucher system which will give individuals, on a sliding scale, a government subsidy so we insure that everyone as individuals have health insurance."³
- He still supports the individual mandate. On a recent appearance on *Meet the Press*, he said that he continues to support "variation" of an individual mandate with a "requirement that you either have health insurance or you post a bond."⁴
- Newt Gingrich: "Personal responsibility extends to the purchase of health insurance. Citizens should not be able to cheat their neighbors by not buying insurance, particularly when they can afford it, and expect others to pay for their care when they need it." -- June 2007⁵
- In his 2008 book *Real Change* he writes, "[I]ndividuals are expected to help pay for their care. Everyone should be required to have coverage. Those with very low incomes

¹ Gingrich, Newt. "Conservatives Should Vote 'Yes' on Medicare." Wall Street Journal. <<http://www.aei.org/article/health/conservatives-should-vote-yes-on-medicare/>>

² "Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich." Club for Growth. <<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

³ Meet the Press Transcript: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/43022759/ns/meet_the_press-transcripts/t/meet-press-transcript-may/#.Tt7rvLJFuso>

⁴ YouTube. "Gingrich Supports 'Variation' on Obamacare-Type Health Insurance Mandate." <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThwVp0cwOMA>>

⁵ Amira, Dan. "The Many Egregious Flip Flops of Newt Gingrich." MSNBC. <<http://powerwall.msnbc.msn.com/politics/the-many-egregious-flip-flops-of-newt-gingrich-1707191.story>>

should receive vouchers or tax credits to help them buy insurance. Those who oppose the concept of insurance should be required to post a bond to cover costs.”⁶

SCHIP

- Gingrich supported the creation and eventual expansion of SCHIP, the government-run health care program for children of low-income families.
- Newt Gingrich’s 2007 op-ed: “The debate over the future of SCHIP is too important to not get it right. Decisions of this magnitude should not be driven by the calendar, campaigns or public opinion polls. Only a clean 18-month extension can push these variables aside and give policymakers the time to create sound and rational policy that protects kids.”⁷

Connection with Pharmaceutical Companies

- A think tank, the Center for Health Transformation, founded by GOP presidential candidate Newt Gingrich collected at least \$37 million over the past eight years from major health-care companies and industry groups, offering special access to the former House speaker and other perks.⁸
- The Center for Health Transformation advocated requiring that “anyone who earns more than \$50,000 a year must purchase health insurance or post a bond.”⁹

Opposed Paul Ryan’s Medicare Plan Because It’s “Too Big a Jump”

- Meet the Press: "I don't think right-wing social engineering is any more desirable than left-wing social engineering. I don't think imposing radical change from the right or the left is a very good way for a free society to operate. [Paul Ryan's Medicare proposal] is too big a jump" -- May 15, 2011.¹⁰

⁶ *Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich.*” Club for Growth. <
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

⁷ Newt, Gingrich and Merritt, David. “*Protecting Kids at the Expense of Politics.*” Politico.
<<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0907/5956.html>>

⁸ Eggen, Dan. “*Gingrich Think Tank Collected Millions from the Health Care Industry.*” Washington Post. <
http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/gingrich-think-tank-collected-millions-from-health-care-industry/2011/11/16/gIQAc72VN_story.html>

⁹ Eggen, Dan. “*Gingrich Think Tank Collected Millions from the Health Care Industry.*” Washington Post. <
http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/gingrich-think-tank-collected-millions-from-health-care-industry/2011/11/16/gIQAc72VN_story.html>

¹⁰ Amira, Dan. “*The Many Egregious Flip Flops of Newt Gingrich.*” MSNBC. <
<http://powerwall.msnbc.msn.com/politics/the-many-egregious-flip-flops-of-newt-gingrich-1707191.story>>

Energy

- Newt filmed a video with Nancy Pelosi stating that “we must take action to address climate change.”¹¹ As recently as January, Newt says that “I meant exactly what I said in that commercial.”¹²
- Newt Gingrich: "I think if you have mandatory carbon caps combined with a trading system, much like we did with sulfur, and if you have a tax-incentive program for investing in the solutions, that there's a package there that's very, very good. And frankly, it's something I would strongly support" -- February 2, 2007.¹³
- Newt Gingrich: "I think is that the evidence is sufficient that we should move towards the most effective possible steps to reduce carbon-loading of the atmosphere." -- April 10, 2007.¹⁴
- He cosponsored the Global Warming Prevention Act of 1989.¹⁵
- Newt Gingrich’s 2006 Human Events column: “Starting with Rep. Jim Nussle's (R-Iowa) bill on renewable fuels, adding to it clean nuclear power using new technologies that are safe and produce little waste, developing more clean coal solutions, investing in a conversion to a hydrogen economy, incentivizing conservation, providing tax credits so the auto industry can invest in the new technology and new manufacturing equipment needed to produce revolutionary new vehicles, creating the tax incentives to build the distribution system for biofuels, hybrids, and hydrogen, providing deeper tax incentives for radically better cars (imagine a substantial tax credit for cars exceeding 200 miles to the gallon of petroleum through a combination of E-85 or biodiesel, hybrid use of electricity and hydrogen), and a bill to create state flexibility in exploring off shore with a 50% split in revenue so state legislatures and governors would have an incentive to develop environmentally sound methods of exploration and production.”¹⁶
- Club for Growth: “In a debate with Senator John Kerry in 2007, Gingrich said, ‘the evidence is sufficient that we should move towards the most effective possible steps to reduce carbon loading in the atmosphere.’ While he insisted that government regulation wasn’t the answer, he said, ‘I would agree you would get more change more rapidly with an incentivized market rather than a laissez-faire approach.’ That’s Gingrich-speak for government involvement.”¹⁷

¹¹ “Nancy Pelosi and Newt Gingrich Commercial on Climate Change.” http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qi6n_wB154&feature=player_embedded

¹² “Newt Wants to Bring the GOP Back to Nature.” [Post and Courier](http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2011/jan/23/newt-wantsto-bring-gopback-to-nature/?fb_xd_fragment#?=&cb=f2f43ec299e1c72&relation=parent&transport=fragment&frame=f3436bdbaad3b64).
<http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2011/jan/23/newt-wantsto-bring-gopback-to-nature/?fb_xd_fragment#?=&cb=f2f43ec299e1c72&relation=parent&transport=fragment&frame=f3436bdbaad3b64>

¹³ Amira, Dan. “The Many Egregious Flip Flops of Newt Gingrich.” [MSNBC](http://powerwall.msnbc.msn.com/politics/the-many-egregious-flip-flops-of-newt-gingrich-1707191.story). <
<http://powerwall.msnbc.msn.com/politics/the-many-egregious-flip-flops-of-newt-gingrich-1707191.story>>

¹⁴ Amira, Dan. “The Many Egregious Flip Flops of Newt Gingrich.” [MSNBC](http://powerwall.msnbc.msn.com/politics/the-many-egregious-flip-flops-of-newt-gingrich-1707191.story). <
<http://powerwall.msnbc.msn.com/politics/the-many-egregious-flip-flops-of-newt-gingrich-1707191.story>>

¹⁵ <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d101:H.R.1078>:

¹⁶ Gingrich, Newt. “The American Eleven: A Values-Led Plan for Victory in November.” [Human Events](http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=16863). <
<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=16863>>

¹⁷ [Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich](http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903).” [Club for Growth](http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903)
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>

- Wants to abolish the Environmental Protection Agency but wants to replace it with the “Environmental Solutions Agency.”¹⁸
- Club for Growth: “More recently, Gingrich defended federal ethanol policies... Gingrich singled out a *Wall Street Journal* editorial critical of ethanol policies, and suggested ethanol’s “big city” critics get their facts straight. Responding to the fact that, without subsidies, tariffs, and federal mandates, there would *be* no ethanol market, Gingrich said, ‘If they’re prepared to insist on a flex-fuel vehicle and every car in America capable of buying ethanol, I think the industry can stand on its own.’ Thus, Gingrich would favor eliminating ethanol subsidies only after Congress mandates that everyone buy ethanol cars.”¹⁹
- Cato Institute: “Perhaps the most revolting example of this spectacle was former House speaker Newt Gingrich's claim that opposition to ethanol subsidies and mandates stems from ‘big city’ folks who just don't like farmers.”²⁰

Taxes

- A tax credit for the purchase of home computers used for educational or professional purposes.
- A \$1,000 tax credit for low-income first-time homebuyers.
- Refundable tax credits for auto companies for the cost of flex-fuels cars, hybrids, plug-in hybrids, and the development of hydrogen cars.
- Tax credits to encourage investment in biofuels and “renewable forms of energy.”
- A permanent 50 percent tax credit for research and development, or at least for “companies that are willing to take on government's ‘grand challenges’ (for example, the first inhabitable moon base).”
- A special business tax credit for “corporations that fund basic research in science and technology at our nation's universities.”²¹

Education

- He voted for the creation of the Department of Education in 1979.²²
- Supports federal control over education: Newt: “Finally, Congress should tie education funding to school accountability. The No Child Left Behind law is making it blaringly obvious just how many schools are crippling and destroying children. We should save the children. Congress should require school systems to institute metrics-based performance

¹⁸ Hunt, Kasie. “*Newt Gingrich Proposes Abolishment the EPA.*” Politico. < <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0111/48143.html>>

¹⁹ *Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich.*” Club for Growth
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>

²⁰ Tanner, Michael. “*Republicans are Weak on Farm Subsidies.*” Cato Institute. < http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=12771>

²¹ *Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich.*” Club for Growth
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>

²² “*Newt Worthy or Not?*” Red State. < <http://www.redstate.com/lessgovisthebestgov/2011/11/08/newtworthy-or-not/>>

standards in order to receive federal funding to ensure that every child is getting the education that they deserve.”²³

TARP

- Club for Growth: “This flaw appeared again in late 2008, when he backed the \$700 billion Wall Street bailout. While he was initially opposed to it, he “reluctantly” endorsed it when successful passage was uncertain in Congress.”²⁴
- Newt’s article in Human Events October 1, 2008: “The taxpayers should be asked to extend these institutions a line of credit until they can get back on their feet.”²⁵

Freddie Mac

- The Gingrich Group received \$1.8 million from Freddie Mac. Most of it right before the housing market crash.²⁶
- It also is worth noting that during the 2008 campaign, Gingrich said that then-candidate Barack Obama should return campaign contributions from the executives of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae.²⁷
- National Review: “Gingrich profited from one the greatest scandals of our lifetime.”²⁸
- Gingrich in September 2008: “the powerful at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac had so many politicians beholden to them that, in fact, nobody was going to check them. And so they got away with things that were absolute bologna, and it’s a tragedy.”²⁹

Miscellaneous

- He endorsed big government Republican Bob Bennett instead of Mike Lee in Utah.³⁰
- Club for Growth: “In the 2009 special election for Congress in New York’s 23rd district, Gingrich was outspoken in his support of liberal Republican nominee Dede Scozzafava,

²³ *Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich.* Club for Growth. <
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

²⁴ *Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich.* Club for Growth
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>

²⁵ Gingrich, Newt. “*Replace Secretary Paulson and Suspend Mark to Market.*” Human Events.
<<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=28818>>

²⁶ Kessler, Glenn. “*Newt Gingrich and Freddie Mac: Is He Being Misleading?*” Washington Post. <
http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/post/newt-gingrich-and-freddie-mac-is-he-being-misleading/2011/11/16/gIQAiAvNSN_blog.html>

²⁷ Kessler, Glenn. “*Newt Gingrich and Freddie Mac: Is He Being Misleading?*” Washington Post. <
http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/post/newt-gingrich-and-freddie-mac-is-he-being-misleading/2011/11/16/gIQAiAvNSN_blog.html>

²⁸ Lowry, Rich. “*Newt’s Friend Freddie.*” National Review. <
<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/283755/newt-s-friend-freddie-rich-lowry>>

²⁹ “*Gingrich’s Ties to Fannie, Freddie go Deeper.*” Talking Points Memo. <
http://tpmmuckraker.talkingpointsmemo.com/2008/12/gingrichs_ties_to_fannie_fredd.php>

³⁰ “*Newt Gingrich Throws His Support Behind Sen. Bob Bennett.*” ABC News. <
<http://www.abc4.com/content/news/top%20stories/story/Newt-Gingrich-throws-support-behind-Sen-Bob/8o5qKx3y6EymmKaU6CxoyA.csp?rss=20>>

up to the moment she finally quit the race after center-right voters rallied behind Conservative Party nominee Doug Hoffman. Long after most prominent conservatives had endorsed Hoffman, Gingrich held firm in his advocacy for a liberal candidate who supported Obama's stimulus plan and the pro-union "card check" proposal, among other bad positions."³¹

- Gingrich called Bob Bennett "a true-blue conservative."³²
- According to National Taxpayer Unions scorecards, Gingrich had an average score of 61% (with 100% being a perfect score on supporting lower taxes and limited government) from 1979-98.³³
- Club for Growth: "In 1998, he derided a group of House conservatives by calling them the 'perfectionist caucus' for opposing a 4,000-page omnibus spending bill."³⁴
- Newt Gingrich has co-sponsored 418 bills with Nancy Pelosi.³⁵

³¹ Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich." [Club for Growth](http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903). <
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

³² Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich." [Club for Growth](http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903). <
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

³³ Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich." [Club for Growth](http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903). <
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

³⁴ Presidential White Paper: Newt Gingrich." [Club for Growth](http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903). <
<http://www.clubforgrowth.org/whitepapers/?subsec=137&id=903>>

³⁵ Pappas, Alex. "While in Congress, Gingrich co-sponsored 418 bills with Pelosi." [Daily Caller](http://dailycaller.com/2011/12/06/while-in-congress-gingrich-co-sponsored-418-bills-with-pelosi/#ixzz1g0CCKE00).
<<http://dailycaller.com/2011/12/06/while-in-congress-gingrich-co-sponsored-418-bills-with-pelosi/#ixzz1g0CCKE00>>