

Warfare:

Do you support reducing the military defense budget of all wasteful and unnecessary military spending and redirecting those funds to meeting human needs at home and abroad? **Yes** No

Do you support the escalation of troops to Afghanistan as a means to ending our military involvement in Afghanistan? Yes **No**

Do you support redirecting most of the war funding to the rebuilding of Afghanistan's infrastructure, including schools, hospitals and clinics, roads and utilities, and providing employment to Afghanistan's unemployed as means to end US military involvement in Afghanistan and stabilizing the country? **Yes** No

Do you support closing all military bases in Iraq and bringing home all US troops and military contractors? **Yes** No

Do you support a realignment of US policy towards Israel and Palestine to achieve a more balanced and fair approach between both parties? Yes **No**

Comments:

In these challenging economic times, we must look for ways to cut wasteful spending wherever it occurs. I applaud Secretary Gates' efforts to eliminate unnecessary and wasteful spending in our defense budget and will support these efforts as a member of both the Armed Services and Budget committees.

I do not support the further escalation of troops in Afghanistan; I am committed to drawing down our military presence there as soon as we safely can and relying instead on civilian tools that will lead to lasting peace and security in the country. However, I do believe we will need to maintain some military presence there in order to conduct counter-terrorism operations and to provide a secure environment for civil sector reconstruction and humanitarian efforts.

I voted against going to war in Iraq, and I am pleased that our combat operations there will end this month. I strongly support the withdrawal of troops that is already underway and scheduled to be completed next year. While we may need to maintain a minimal presence there to advise and assist with training and other functions, I hope that presence is as small and temporary as possible.

Finally, with regard to Israel, I support our nation's current policy of working with our partners and allies in the Middle East and around the world to encourage and support a lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

Economic Social Justice

Do you support the Employee Free Choice Act? **Yes** No

Do you support the TRADE Act? **Yes** No

Do you support Fair trade as opposed to Free trade? **Yes** No

Do you support a budget freeze, which does not include military spending? **Yes** No

Do you support President Obama's bi-partisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, which some claim will be used to balance the budget by reducing the social safety net without reducing defense spending? **Yes** No

Do you support prosecuting individuals for their participation in the Wall Street crash of 2008? **Yes** No

Do you support tough new regulations on Wall Street like those contained in the Glass-Steagall Act? **Yes** No

Do you support efforts to limit corporate speech? **Yes** No

Do you support full marriage rights for gay and lesbian couples? Yes **No**

Do you support gays openly serving in the military? **Yes** No

Comments:

I am a strong supporter of working families and an original co-sponsor of both EFCA and the TRADE Act. I believe in fair trade policies that prioritize worker rights, environmental protection and corporate responsibility.

As a member of the Budget Committee, I know we must restore fiscal responsibility and face the challenge of our deficits head-on. I support President Obama's proposal for a three-year budget freeze. While it does not freeze military spending, I am committed to finding ways to decrease our defense budget by cutting unnecessary programs and getting rid of wasteful or fraudulent expenditures. I also support the President's bi-partisan Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and look forward to reviewing their recommendations later this year.

I was proud to support the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which will create regulations for financial institutions that prohibit proprietary trading and

investments in hedge funds. Non-bank financial institutions supervised by the Federal Reserve will also have similar restrictions. In addition, the bill includes increased funding for regulators to crack down on those parties that abuse the financial system. I also voted for the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act, which created a commission to study the causes of the crisis and make regulatory recommendations.

I was deeply disappointed in the Supreme Court's decision in the *Citizens United* case, and I am a proud co-sponsor of the DISCLOSE Act, which seeks to increase transparency and accountability for corporate and special-interest campaign expenditures.

I have been an active, longtime supporter of repealing the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and was proud to vote for legislation that included the repeal this year. With regard to gay marriage, my personal belief is that civil unions are preferable at this time, but I believe this issue is one best left to the states.

Elections:

Do you believe that every voter has the right to have his or her vote counted? **Yes** No

In the case of a too close to call election, or evidence of election tampering, do you support a manual recount of all ballots cast? **Yes** No

Will you support removing corporate control of elections by prohibiting closed-source voting machines? **Yes** No

Do you support the 2009 Fair Elections Now Act? **Yes** No

Comments:

I am very concerned with the Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*, which would allow corporations to fund political ads without disclosing their funding sources. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 5175, the Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light On Spending in Elections (DISCLOSE) Act, which passed the House of Representatives with my support on June 24, 2010. This bill would improve transparency and accountability in our election process and protect the free speech of individuals. While I was disappointed that the final bill was amended to include an exemption for certain organizations, I believe the bill takes a step forward towards improving our campaign process. I am also a cosponsor and strong supporter of the Fair Elections Now Act.

Accountability

Will you introduce a bill instructing the House Judiciary Committee to begin impeachment proceedings for Jay Bybee? Yes **No**

Will you publicly lobby the chairs of congressional committees to restore the power of subpoena by use of inherent contempt? Yes **No**

Will you vote No on bills that fund illegal activities, such as the war in Iraq, the war in Afghanistan, drone attacks, lawless imprisonment, warrantless spying, and torture? **Yes** No

Will your answers to the questions above be alterable by pressure from the leaders of your party, your major funders, or the opinions of the corporate media? Yes **No**

Comments:

While I am deeply troubled by the role of Jay Bybee in crafting the “torture memos” during his time at the Department of Justice, I have no plans to introduce legislation seeking his impeachment from the federal bench. The House Judiciary Committee continues to investigate the conduct of Bybee and others, and I will follow their efforts closely. Similarly, I do not plan to publicly lobby for use of the power of congressional committees to hold individuals in “inherent contempt.” This is a power that remains available to committees, and I trust the discretion of the Chairs to use it when and if appropriate.

I will not support funding for any activities which I believe are illegal. Finally, while I welcome a healthy debate and discussion on policy issues with anyone – be they House leaders, campaign supporters, advocates or constituents – I have always made my own decisions based on my beliefs, my understanding of the issues and my responsibility to the constituents I represent.

Energy and Environment

Will you support Larson’s America's Energy Security Trust Fund Act of 2009? **Yes** No

Will you protect EPA’s regulatory role? **Yes** No

Will you support efforts to encourage a transition to a green and sustainable economy to create new industrial jobs and industrial innovation? **Yes** No

Will you support direct carbon pricing and revenue recycling to households as the preferred mechanism to combat the climate crisis?

Yes No

Will you support efforts to eliminate mountain-top mining, oil-shale development, and Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)?

Yes No

Will you support establishing and maintaining tax breaks or credits to taxpayers for upgrading the energy efficiency of their homes, appliances, and automobiles?

Yes No

Do you support the protection of American wild lands and species, and will you oppose efforts to open our pristine public lands to mineral and energy exploration, drilling, mining, and timber harvesting?

Yes No

Will you support the Red Rocks Wilderness Act?

Yes No

Comments:

As a founding member of the Sustainable Energy and Environmental Coalition (SEEC), I have fought for quick action on climate legislation this session and supported the passage of a bill to cap and price pollutants, H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security (ACES) Act. Carbon emissions continue to be one of the greatest threats to our ecosystem and we must act now to put a price on pollutants and end our dependence on foreign oil. The bill also included increased investments in renewable energy and energy efficient technologies which have the potential to create over one million clean energy jobs. Additionally, SEEC has taken an active role in opposing efforts by other members to prevent the EPA from regulating carbon emissions.

Regarding mountaintop mining, I have been a longtime cosponsor of the Clean Water Protection Act and recently signed a letter with my colleagues to the EPA supporting their efforts to protect the public and environment from the dangerous effects of surface coal mining in Appalachia. I believe that the lifecycle of greenhouse gas emissions must be taken into consideration when making decisions regarding investments into renewable energy production. I do not support subsidies for new technologies like so-called “clean coal” and I recently signed a letter to Secretary Clinton expressing concern regarding the permitting process for TransCanada’s proposed Keystone XL tar sands oil pipeline. I am a cosponsor of legislation to support home energy efficient retrofits, including H.R. 1778, the Retrofit for Energy and Environmental Performance (REEP) Program Act and H.R. 5019, the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act. I have been an original cosponsor of the Red Rock Wilderness Act in every session of Congress since my election in 2000, and will continue to fight for its passage.