

# The 2010 Election: What it Means and What to Expect

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# The 2010 Election-Precursor

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Worst Economy Since the Great Depression

Controversial Obama Stimulus Package

Republican Resistance

Democratic Incompetence

Obama-care

“Tea Anyone

Anti-Government Rhetoric

The 2009 Elections—VA, NJ and MA

The Country and Voters have moved to the right



# Historic GOP Gains in the House

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- GOP Nets 63 seats— 242—19
- Huge New Freshman Class
- 35 New GOP Members Have Never Held Public Office
- Less Government, Lower Taxes, Hammer Unions Plus Guns and God
- GOP Conference Much More Conservative
- Democratic Caucus More Liberal



# The US Senate—An Incomplete Republican Romp

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- GOP Gains Six Seats— NH, ND, IL, IN, PA and AR
- Republican Squander Opportunities in CO, DE, and NV
- Ultra Conservative New Senators—Rand, Paul, Marco Rubio, and Mike Lee
- Team DeMint and Coburn
- Leader Reid Survives: But, can he govern?
- 111<sup>th</sup> Congress— Over 300 House Passed Bills Died in the Senate



# Governors Where the Rubber Meets the Road

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- Enormous GOP Gains
- In 2006, there were 29 Democratic Governors
- Today, the Split is 30 GOP/20 Democrats
- New GOP Governors Are More Doctrinaire and Anti-Government
- New Democratic Governors Are Republican-light



# State Houses—More GOP Victories

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- Nationwide GOP Gains 680 Seats
- GOP Flips 19 Legislative Chambers
- GOP Controls 20 States
- Democrats Control 8
- 22 Have Split Control
- All States Have Gravitated to the Right



# Impacts on the State Level

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- State Deficits – 122.6 BILLION for FY 11 or 18.7% of their total Budgets
- ARRA Money To States Is Ending: 135-140 Billion Over 2 ½ Years or about 35-40% of the total Deficit
- Federal Cuts Impact States Budgets— Discretionary Spending is 1.39 Trillion or 38% of the Federal Budget. Roughly 50% is defense and 33% is STATE AID.
- What Happens in DC Does NOT Stay in DC!!!!



# Tora! Tora! Tora!—The Attacks Have Begun

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- Draconian State Cuts-46 States Have Cut Services and 30 have Raised Taxes
- Trickle Down to Local Aid
- Attacks on Workers Rights
- Pension, Pension, Pension

Fire Fighters and Fire Chiefs Are in this  
Together!



# Outlook for 112<sup>th</sup> Congress

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Is there a Mandate?

Divided Government:

Gridlock or Bipartisanship?

House Dynamics:

Balancing two Constituencies

Senate Dynamics:

A New Kind of Bipartisanship



# Outlook for 112<sup>th</sup> Congress

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## The Key Players

### House

John Boehner  
Eric Cantor  
Michele Bachmann  
Paul Ryan  
Nancy Pelosi

### Senate

Harry Reid  
Mitch McConnell  
Chuck Schumer  
Jim DeMint



# Outlook for 112<sup>th</sup> Congress

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## The Issues

Budget / Appropriations

Job Creation

Health Care

Tax Reform

Possible Areas of Agreement:

Energy

Immigration

Education



# Outlook for 112<sup>th</sup> Congress

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## Challenges for the fire Service

- Attacks on our Pensions/Social Security
- Communications/Broadband
- Bankruptcy Threats
- SAFER/AFG Re-authorization
- Funding Issues—Grant Programs
- EMS

