



Action Plan:
America Wins



www.inglisforcongress.com

America wins...

When “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” are understood to be inalienable rights and every life is valued – from pre-birth to natural death.

When the First Amendment is revered and people speak their minds, pray and worship freely and are served by a free press.

When the Second Amendment is honored and people can defend themselves.

When the Fifth Amendment is upheld and private property rights are secure.

When the Tenth Amendment is kept and the federal government is focused on the powers delegated to it.

America wins...

When politicians lead rather than follow, using information and reason rather than passions and prejudices.

When leaders focus, not on some mythical “good old days” that never existed, but rather on these great new days in which we are blessed to live.

When leaders and interest groups spare us from the suggestion that they alone can save us from a trend line down into the abyss.

When we serve mutual interest over self-interest, and when we spread trust over mistrust.

When political parties are the servants rather than the masters of the political process.

America wins...

When conservatives are into conservation, showing ways to use market mechanisms rather than bureaucratic regulations to accomplish stewardship goals.

When conservatism is presented in a hopeful, optimistic voice.

When all of us pray for and honor freedom’s children as they stand guard in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

When we believe that America’s best days are still ahead.

Here’s how...

FUEL PRICES

Dealing with high fuel prices isn’t going to be easy, but it can be good.

Getting the answer right will set up the triple play of this American century.

Breaking our addiction to oil can:

- Improve the national security of the United States as we stop funding terrorists with our gasoline purchases.
- Create jobs in South Carolina as we develop and deploy fuels of the future.
- Clean up the air as we switch to the clean fuels of the future.

It’s not going to be easy. It’s as though we’ve been on the couch for 35 years since the 1973 Arab oil embargo, and we’re thinking about getting up and exercising American creativity. Painful? Yes. Profitable? Amazingly.

Here’s a plan:

1. Reinvent the Car

- a. Start by conserving fuel with higher fuel efficiency standards.
 - i. Deploy technology like low rolling resistance tires, a Michelin invention that saves gas.
- b. Use clean diesel.
 - i. BMW will soon be making cars in Spartanburg with 35 mile per gallon clean diesel engines.
- c. Expand tax incentives for gas-electric hybrids.
 - i. BMW has announced that its first gas-electric hybrid will be made in Spartanburg!
- d. Create incentives for plug-in hybrids.
- e. Develop cellulosic ethanol, moving away from corn-based ethanol which has fuel competing against food.
- f. Make a moon shot, within-the-decade commitment to:
 - i. Better batteries that charge within minutes; hold charge for hundreds of miles; and are made of elements found within the U.S.
 - ii. Better solar panels that more efficiently convert sunlight into electricity.
 - iii. Hydrogen – the most magnificent portable fuel.

2. More Electricity

- a. Extend President Bush’s renewable energy tax credit.
 - i. If the renewable energy tax credit is extended, we will overtake Germany as the No. 1 producer of wind energy by the end of 2008.

- ii. GE is the No. 2 installer of wind units in the world. Much of that work is done at their Garlington Road plant in Greenville.
 - iii. GE is looking for 200 more engineers to work at their Greenville facility. Eureka! There're jobs in the wind!
- b. Build more nuclear power plants.
- i. Coal-fired plants belch carbon dioxide 24/7.
 - ii. Nuclear plants have a waste issue, but they produce no greenhouse gasses.
 - iii. Advanced nuclear reactors may be the most efficient way to split water to create hydrogen for transportation.
 - iv. Construction power houses like Fluor Corporation will construct some of those plants. Stainless steel welders (you need lots of those to build a nuclear power plant) can make \$150,000 a year.
- c. Continue to develop solar energy.
- i. Fully implement net metering so that homeowners and commercial building owners can profit from installing solar units.
- d. Develop clean coal technologies.
- i. Deploy clean coal processes that burn hydrogen separated out of coal. Capture and sequester the carbon.
 - ii. Because sequestration is not possible everywhere, continue research on other ways to capture the carbon. South Carolina firms are studying ways to feed carbon dioxide to algae and then use the algae for biodiesel.

3. More Oil and Gas

- a. Drill safely for oil and gas offshore.
- b. Build more refineries.
- c. Save some oil for when we really need it. Some pharmaceuticals and plastics can only be made from oil. Rather than just burning up reserves in special places like ANWR, why not hold on to those resources for when oil is really hard to find?
After a 10-year construction/drilling project, ANWR may produce 1 million barrels of crude oil per day. By then, the U.S. will be consuming 27 million barrels per day. So it would constitute 1/27th of our supply. That's why T. Boone Pickens, the Texas oil tycoon, says it's "ridiculous" to think that ANWR can solve our problem.

4. Better Buildings

- a. Buildings use 40% of the energy we consume.
- b. Act locally to require better insulation and better design in new buildings.

5. Avoid quick, easy and wrong solutions

- a. After sitting on the couch for 35 years, there's no pill we can take to cure our problems. We've got to get up, shake-a-leg and stop eating so much fuel.
- b. Examples of quick, easy and wrong solutions (what not to do):
 - i. Not! Suspend the gas tax for the summer – just means we deficit finance road construction and repair.
 - ii. Not! Stop filling the strategic reserve. During Hurricane Katrina gas was almost gone in the Upstate. The reserve is there to keep us ready for natural storms and oil storms (the kind caused by terrorists).

- iii. Not! Just drill more holes. (Bring me some more nachos. Don't forget the cheese.) We have only 2% of the world's known oil reserves, but creativity is our stock-in-trade. "Get me more oil" just prolongs our addiction. As the former head of the CIA told the Foreign Affairs Committee a while back, if we want to ruin the day of the Iranian oil minister, we'd have GM announce that it's bringing to market a 500 mile per gallon plug-in hybrid.
- iv. Not! Excess profits tax on the oil companies. Re-live the 70s; make Jimmy Carter Secretary of Energy in a Clinton administration. He'll bring back platform shoes, disco dancing and excess profits taxes!

FOOD PRICES

Food prices are tied to fuel prices. Getting more refining capacity in the near term and getting cars off of oil in the mid-term and long-term will help farmers with diesel and fertilizer prices. Breakthroughs in cellulosic ethanol (the kind that comes from switch grass and wood chips rather than corn) will make corn and other grains more available and more affordable as food. We should stop competing fuel against food.

IMMIGRATION

Solving the problem of illegal immigration is one of the simplest challenges we face. All it takes is a little bit of courage.

1. **Tighten up the border, building fences where necessary, using the military where necessary.**
2. **Require employers to E-verify Social Security numbers before offering jobs.**
3. **Tighten up proof of legal status for drivers' licenses and license tags.**
4. **Limit social benefits to citizens.**
5. **Deal with the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants here in the U.S. by:**
 - i. Offering a limited stay – not the indefinite stay of the Z visa proposed in the Senate immigration bill, but a temporary worker permit following payment of a substantial fine.
 - ii. Following the temporary worker permit with the opportunity for a green card if the worker returns to home country to apply from there, pays an additional, substantial fine and proves proficiency in English.
 - iii. Following the green card with an opportunity for citizenship provided the applicant can pass the citizenship test and provided the backlog of legal entrants has been cleared. (Clearing the legal entrants is expected to take 8-13 years).

CLIMATE CHANGE

Far from a doomsday scenario, acting on climate change is a fabulous opportunity for can-do America:

- **Market push.** The market will drive innovation once a price is attached to carbon. We won't be doing science projects then! If I lose the gift of belching carbon into the air, my old-technology company may be beaten by your new-technology firm. But look what competition has brought us with computers, cell phones and every kind of gadget. Anybody pining for the days of black and white TV?
- **Strengthen manufacturing.** China and India must be subject to carbon restrictions. If they don't comply, let's put a carbon tariff on their goods as they enter the U.S. Ah, one less reason to manufacture overseas! China has 1.3 billion people. India has a billion people. It's fine for them to have the advantage of cheaper labor. It's wrong for them to have the advantage of cheaper air.
- **Improve national security.** While we're cleaning the air and creating jobs with new technologies, we'll also be improving the national security of the United States. Homemade fuels will break our addiction to foreign oil, and we'll stop funding terrorists when we buy gasoline.
- **Improve our image.** When you're the world's only superpower, you need to act more like Roger Milliken and less like Donald Trump. Mr. Milliken is the only billionaire who's ever been to my house. He's a gentleman and he's generous. On climate change the world is asking: "Are you Americans more like Milliken or Trump?" The answer will have a direct effect on our military budget.

Science Committee trips to Antarctica have convinced me that climate change is real, that humans are contributing to the problem and that we need to take action. A number of people aren't convinced just yet and think that it's all a natural cycle that we humans can't affect. But if we can take action and actually improve our lives, why wouldn't we want to act?

IRAQ

America's incredible volunteers have won three campaigns in Iraq.

- **Phase 1.** We asked them to take out a madman suspected of plans to use weapons of mass destruction. America's best took him out.
- **Phase 2.** Once deployed in Iraq, we asked them to disrupt terrorist networks. There being no further attacks on the United States since 9/11, America's best succeeded again.
- **Phase 3.** The President asked our troops to surge to create a security space for decision making by Iraqi politicians. America's best took to the streets of Iraq and won that security space.

Iraq must now decide if it wants freedom. Our fallen heroes have died for the people of America and only incidentally for the people of Iraq. American national security is our objective in Iraq, not nation building. Because it's in our national security interest, we seek to be a *supporter* of their democracy; we must not make the mistake of becoming a *guarantor* of their democracy. Freedom isn't free. Iraqis must pay for it.

Iraqi politicians and the Iraqi people must be held accountable for progress toward reconciliation goals. It's not time to withdraw, but it is time to establish a series of success checkpoints to measure progress on dividing the oil fairly among Shia, Sunnis and Kurds; on reintegrating former Baath Party members into positions of public trust; and on amending the constitution to ensure Sunni rights. Those success checkpoints should be accompanied by a progression of larger to smaller "carrots" (rewards) followed by smaller to larger "sticks" (consequences).

HEALTH CARE

Affording quality health care is America's most complex challenge. It's going to take careful thought to design systems fit for America. Too simply stated, we should:

1. **Make prevention especially affordable and readily available**
 - a. Annual physicals
 - b. Aggressive management of chronic conditions
 - c. Aggressive encouragement of smoking cessation and weight control
 - d. Emphasize nutrition and exercise
2. **Get every American covered by health insurance**
 - a. Would reduce "cost shift"
 - b. Large risks should be shared; small risks should be owned
3. **Use technology to improve efficiencies and outcomes**
 - a. Electronic medical records
 - b. Better use of diagnostic tools
4. **Understand the competitive disadvantage we're causing American industry**
 - a. Private insureds and individual payers are making up for the bargain purchases the government is getting through its low reimbursements to Medicare and Medicaid providers.
 - b. Health insurance should be owned by individuals; not by their employers.
5. **Meet the patient at the need**
 - a. 24-7 clinics adjacent to emergency rooms

EDUCATION

The federal government should:

- Inspire attainment, realizing that we're committing our children to a standard-of-living-race in which they will have to run harder, faster and smarter than the rest of the world.
 - Oil at \$120 a barrel is this generation's Sputnik.
 - Creative, prepared, flexible young people must re-energize freedom.
- Provide a robust system of student aid so as to allow students to go to colleges throughout the U.S.

Local decision makers (parents, teachers, school districts) should manage education.

- Real close to the real solution in education – parents!
- No Child Left Behind was the right concept (accountability) imposed by the wrong level of government (the federal government) and should be repealed.



He never gave up.

David McCullough writes in his book *1776*, “The year 1776 had been as dark a time as those devoted to the American cause had ever known - indeed as dark a time as any in the history of the country. And suddenly, miraculously it seemed, that had changed because of a small band of determined men and their leader.

That’s high praise for the unproven General George Washington, a man whose greatest military accomplishments were strategic retreats. And amidst those stunning retreats were humiliating loses - like the one McCullough describes in the Battle of Brooklyn: “Washington had proven indecisive and inept. In his first command on a large-scale field of battle, he and his general officers had not only failed, they had been made to look like fools.”

And, yet, there was within this man the hope of a nation.

McCullough concludes that Washington “was not a brilliant strategist or tactician, not a gifted orator, not an intellectual. [Yeah, there’s hope for us!] At several crucial moments he had shown marked indecisiveness. He had made serious mistakes in judgment. But experience had been his great teacher from boyhood, and in this his greatest test, he learned steadily from experience. Above all, Washington never forgot what was at stake and he never gave up.”

According to McCullough, it’s no myth that George Washington mounted his horse to rally his troops. But like us, he occasionally lost it.

McCullough writes that in the midst of a “pell mell panic” at Kips Bay, New York, General Washington met his men fleeing the battle:

In a fury, he plunged his horse in among them, trying to stop them. Cursing violently, he lost control of himself. By some accounts, he brandished a cocked pistol. In other accounts, he drew his sword, threatening to run men through. ...When no one obeyed, he threw his hat on the ground, exclaiming in disgust, “Are these the men with which I am to defend America?”

And yet there came other days - days of redemption for General Washington. David McCullough quotes a young officer writing after Washington led in victory at the Battle of Princeton:

“I shall never forget what I felt... when I saw him brave all the dangers of the field and his important life hanging as it were by a single hair with a thousand deaths flying around him. Believe me, I thought not of myself.”

“Parade with us, my brave fellows,” Washington is said to have called out to them. “There is but a handful of the enemy, and we will have them directly!”

In the midst of the threats of our day (dependence on oil, funding terrorists with our gas purchases, competing fuel against food), the patriot call to the echo of General Washington is this:

“Sir, there is but a handful of threats, and we will have them directly!”



If we really believe that God is sovereign, we have every reason to be optimistic.

- *“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.”*
Psalm 24:1

Our system of checks and balances rightly estimates the inclinations of human nature and compensates for them. No President, no position, no power should be worshiped.

- *First Commandment: “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.”*
Exodus 20:2-3.
- *Second Commandment: “You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them...”* *Exodus 20:4-5*

President Bill Clinton wisely observed at the 1994 National Prayer Breakfast that the most violated commandment in Washington is the Ninth.

- *Ninth Commandment: “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.”* *Exodus 20:16.*

When I pass on demonizing Democrats, I’m trying to honor the Ninth Commandment.

I’m also remembering the lessons of the 1998 Senate race. In the aftermath of my loss, I saw my self-righteousness. I had wanted God to judge between me and Senator Hollings. I

learned that the inches of difference between the two of us weren’t worth comparing to the eternity standing between the two of us and God’s righteous standard. That eternity is bridged by grace. I hope to call on grace for the rest of my time on this planet, and I hope to extend that grace – more and more – to those who oppose me.

When I calm the fires on immigration, I’m trying to tune my heart to beat in sync with God’s heart. Put the word “alien” in a Bible search engine, read the verses and hear the beat of God’s heart.

- *See for example Leviticus 19:34: “The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native-born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the LORD your God.”*

When I reach out to people who have been marginalized, I’m trying to be an agent of reconciliation. All of us need grace. I hope never again to posit myself as the embodiment of the Gospel that I believe. The Gospel is beyond me. It is bigger than me and bigger than my party. To posit myself or some human platform as the embodiment of the Good News is to defile the Good News.

- *2 Corinthians 5: 20-21 “We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

When I address climate change I’m trying to fulfill the mandate of being a steward of God’s creation.

When I speak of streamlined, efficient and effective government, I’m trying to remember that it is God who blesses every soul, not government.

- *Psalm 20:7 “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.”*

When I express confidence in markets, I’m trying to remember Economics 101 and common sense.

When I speak of the American dream, I’m trying to remember that all of us have a God-given desire to create, to contribute and to care. America is more a subscription to an ideal than a geographic location. In all I do in Congress, I want to secure the blessings of liberty in our own land and help spread those blessings to willing freedom believers in other lands. America the blessed exists to be a blessing.



Paid for by Inglis for Congress Committee, Inc.
P.O. Box 210, Travelers Rest, SC 29690
www.inglisforcongress.com
Local 864.836.3694 Toll Free 1.800.846.4547