

# DOING RIGHT *by* America

## THE DEMOCRATIC DIFFERENCE

**Doing Right by America** is the fundamental value that should guide all our actions in Congress. On every issue, our most important obligation is to make our country stronger and better, not satisfy powerful special interests. We won't let boardroom priorities crowd out kitchen-table needs, and we'll make sure that problems at home don't take a backseat to problems around the world.

### Our Commitment to American Families

*As we seek a new and better direction for our country, we pledge to:*

- **Fulfill our moral responsibility** to create a better future for our children.
- **Preserve middle class values** and expand the circle of opportunity and prosperity.
- **Reward work**, not just wealth.
- **Stop special interests** like Enron and Halliburton from undermining our common purpose.
- **Rely on facts and common sense** more than ideological theories.

### Our Plan To Make America Safer, Stronger, and Smarter

#### NATIONAL SECURITY AND A SAFER AMERICA

To win the war on terrorism, we must be strong at home and respected abroad. Rather than special deals for Halliburton, we will provide our troops—active and reserve—with the pay, equipment, and health care they deserve, and we will honor our commitments to our veterans. We will work with our friends and allies to ensure they do their fair share, and we will make our communities more secure by providing sufficient resources to our police officers and firefighters.

#### JOBS AND WAGES

A strong America requires a strong and growing middle class, and that means reversing the trend in which workers get paid less while corporations reap record profits. We will rewrite our tax policies so American companies have an incentive to keep jobs at home, not ship them overseas. And we will also fight to increase the minimum wage and protect American workers' hard-earned right to overtime pay.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

We will provide every American with the opportunity to choose from the same health care options, at the same price, as Members of Congress. We will also enact a prescription drug policy that doesn't funnel billions of dollars in windfalls to drug companies and HMOs, but instead offers seniors the medications they need at a fair price.

#### EDUCATION GUARANTEE

Educational commitments and vocational programs will be fully funded, and a first-rate and affordable college education will be available to every student who earns admission.

#### NATIONAL CHECKBOOK

We will fix the fiscally irresponsible policies that have turned record surpluses into record deficits. Those policies are draining the Social Security trust fund and passing on a massive birth tax to our children.

#### ENERGY INDEPENDENCE, A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT, AND TECHNOLOGICAL LEADERSHIP

We will encourage technological innovation to ensure we don't have a dangerous dependence on foreign oil, and we will provide a clean and healthy environment for future generations. We will also make the investments we need to help cure diseases, keep America's economy on the cutting edge, and create millions of high-tech, high-wage jobs in the industries of the future.

**EVERY DECISION, ONE STANDARD  
DOING RIGHT BY AMERICA**