

NO LABELS NATIONAL STRATEGIC AGENDA



Since its inception in 2010, No Labels has been working to bring a new politics of problem solving to our government. Ours is an organization unlike any other. While many outside political groups are working to tear our leaders apart, No Labels is working to bring them together. We have built a potent network featuring hundreds of thousands of citizens and local leaders across America and almost 100 bipartisan allies in the United States Congress. During that time, we have gotten our signature No Budget, No Pay idea turned into law and crafted agendas to improve the functioning of Congress and the entire federal government. Now, we are pushing our biggest idea yet: a National Strategic Agenda for America.

This agenda will create a framework to solve some of America's greatest national challenges — and it will be created with input from people across America. No Labels' goal is to have this new governing vision completed by fall 2015, just in time to influence the conversation in the 2016 presidential election. But we need your help to achieve these four key goals as part of our National Strategic Agenda:

Create 25 million new jobs over the next 10 years: In the wake of the Great Recession, there are still far too many Americans looking for work. It's led some commentators to suggest that jobless economic recoveries are the "new normal." But there's nothing normal or acceptable about millions of Americans unable to have the dignity of work and the promise of a better future. It's time to make the creation of 25 million new jobs a national priority.

Secure Medicare and Social Security for another 75 years: Medicare and Social Security are true lifelines for America's seniors. But these lifelines are fraying. As more Americans draw more costly benefits, there is a shrinking ratio of workers available to pay for them. For the sake of this generation and the next, we need to reform how Medicare and Social Security benefits are paid and how the programs are funded to ensure they are secure for the next 75 years.

Balance the federal budget by 2030: America's debt is big -- around \$12 trillion -- and projected to get much bigger for a number of reasons, including a longer-living population, rising long-term health-care costs and a weak recovery from the Great Recession. Failure to deal with the problem could eventually lead to spiraling interest rates and fewer resources to fund essential priorities ranging from infrastructure and education to defense. It's time for America to deal with our debt problem before it deals with us.

Make America energy secure by 2024: America has lots of specific energy policies and programs. And we have lots of potential energy supplies that could meet future needs. What we don't have is a comprehensive, bipartisan strategic energy plan that is designed to meet the twin challenges America faces:

- 1) We need a lot more energy in the future; and
- 2) That energy needs to be increasingly cleaner to mitigate the effects of climate change.

It's time for a real plan to create an energy system that is adequate, affordable, reliable and sustainable so we can make America energy secure by 2024.

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