



A Champion for Progressive Values

Hillary has a long record of supporting issues and positions that are important to progressives. She has served on the boards of the Children's Defense Fund and the Legal Services Corporation, an organization that provides free legal services to low income individuals. She has fought to expand access to high quality early childhood education and job training. She has been a champion for women's rights and in 1995, at the United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing made a historic statement that "women's rights are human rights," a statement that still echoes worldwide. Throughout her career she has been a champion for:

- ❖ **Universal Healthcare** – As president, Hillary will make universal health care a reality. This is a battle Hillary has fought before -- and as she says, she has the scars to prove it. As First Lady, Hillary introduced a plan to provide full coverage for all Americans, which was defeated after aggressive opposition. She continued the fight by helping to create the State Children's Health Insurance Program, which represented the single largest expansion of children's health care in American history. SCHIP provides coverage for more than six million low-income children. In the Senate, Hillary has continued her work to expand access to health insurance to all Americans. She fought to protect SCHIP against drastic cuts proposed by the Bush Administration. Hillary also wrote the Early Treatment for HIV Act, which expands access to vital treatment options for low-income individuals living with HIV, and fought to fully fund the Ryan White CARE Act to improve access to treatment and support for those living with this tragic disease. She's also fighting to lower costs by modernizing our nation's health care infrastructure, which will also reduce errors and improve patient care.
- ❖ **Increasing the Minimum Wage** – Hillary has sponsored legislation to index increases in the minimum wage to increases in Congressional pay. The minimum wage is at its lowest level of buying power in 51 years and Hillary believes an increase is long overdue.
- ❖ **Ending Discrimination** – Hillary has supported comprehensive civil rights legislation, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would finally prohibit discrimination against employees on the basis of their sexual orientation. She has supported legislation to end hate crimes against gays, lesbians, and transgender individuals. She has called for ending the misguided Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy of the U.S. military. And she has supported the right of gay couples to adopt.

- ❖ **Protecting A Woman’s Right to Choose** – for her whole career, Hillary has been a strong defender of Roe v. Wade while also working to make abortion safe, legal, and rare. She has a 100% voting record with Planned Parenthood and NARAL Pro-Choice America. Senator Clinton waged a successful three year battle to make Plan B emergency contraception available over the counter and fought for greater access to family planning and women’s health services.
- ❖ **Addressing Global Warming and Protecting the Environment** – Senator Clinton has called for a \$50 billion Strategic Energy Fund to jumpstart research and investment in clean energy technologies, promote job growth, energy independence and create a cleaner environment. In addition, she celebrated Earth Day by announcing that her campaign office was going carbon neutral. She has also called for requiring power companies to generate at least 20% of their electricity from renewable sources by 2020. In the Senate, she created the Healthy, High-Performance Schools (HHPS) Program to help public schools “go green;” secured funds to retrofit school buses so they can use clean diesel; fought against drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; and supported the “roadless” ban on logging in the unspoiled areas of the national forest system.
- ❖ **Affordable and accessible higher education** – Senator Clinton wrote the Student Borrower’s Bill of Rights to protect students against discriminatory and predatory lending practices. She pushed two key provisions of the Student Borrowers Bill of Rights through Congress last year before the student loan scandal ever made headlines. She also wrote legislation to provide additional support to non-traditional students (college students who are the first in their families to attend college, those who are working fulltime and/or raising children). And she has fought relentlessly to increase the maximum Pell Grant, reduce interest rates on student loans, increase campus-based aid through programs like federal work-study, and to expand the federal Direct Loan program, which is significantly more cost effective than the private loan program.
- ❖ **Reforming our Public Schools** – Senator Clinton has said No Child Left Behind was well-intentioned but has become an unfunded mandate – a one size fits all approach to public education that has not been properly funded or implemented. She has fought aggressively to provide the funds that were promised in NCLB and to hold the Administration accountable for breaking its promise. Throughout her career, Hillary has worked to bring more outstanding teachers and principals to our schools. As part of NCLB, she created the Transition to Teaching program to help mid-career individuals enter the teaching field. She also created the School Leadership program to support recruiting, training, and supporting excellent principals. And she is the lead sponsor of legislation to provide additional federal funding for Teach for America, a program that works to increase the number of highly accomplished recent college graduates teaching in underserved communities. She has strongly opposed vouchers, which divert precious resources from our public school systems.
- ❖ **Expanding Access to Child Care** – Throughout her career Senator Clinton has fought to expand access to child care to enable individuals living in poverty to become self sufficient. As First Lady, she helped create the Early Head Start program, which provides comprehensive services to impoverished infants and toddlers and their families. In the

Senate, she helped pass a \$6 billion funding increase for child case assistance and successfully defeated the Bush Administration's proposal to undermine Head Start.

- ❖ **Job Training** – Hillary has introduced legislation to increase job training funds, and target more job training resources towards individuals who are learning English. She also helped author and enact the *Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006*, which provides \$1.3 billion for career and technical education.
- ❖ **Ending the War in Iraq** – Senator Clinton has put forth a comprehensive plan for ending the war in Iraq. In addition to capping troop levels, Hillary's proposal, the Iraq Troop Protection and Reduction Act of 2007, will begin to remove the troops from Iraq within 90 days of passage, or Congress will revoke authorization for the war. This bill puts an end to the blank check to the Iraqi government and gives them real benchmarks with real consequences if they fail to meet them. Her proposal also requires the Secretary of Defense to certify that all troops sent to Iraq have the training and equipment they need end the war before the next president takes the oath of office. But she has also been clear: if George Bush refuses to end the war, when she is president, she will.