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Talking About the Economy

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POLL-TESTED MESSAGES THAT WORK

Made in America

I want to see the words “Made in America” again. Becoming the world’s leader again in manufacturing and agriculture isn’t just essential to our national security. Imagine if we’d had to fight World War II without manufacturing plants and American-grown food.

It’s time we negotiate trade agreements that lift workers up, not bring the pay and benefits of American workers down to the level of Mexico and China.

It’s time we stopped rewarding companies that outsource their jobs overseas and giving tax breaks to companies that shelter their money offshore. It’s time we stopped giving money to the big banks that are strangling small businesses, which are the engine of economic growth and job creation in this country. And it’s time that we balanced free trade with fair trade, so that the working people who contribute to the creation of wealth share in it.

Stop the shrinking middle class

It’s time to start expanding our economy and stop shrinking the middle class. The middle class has always been the backbone of this country, and for the first time in generations, more people are falling out of it than joining the ranks.

In the last 30 years we’ve seen an accelerating gulf between the rich and the rest of us, with the wealthiest 1% taking home more than the entire middle class combined. Two-thirds of the American families are now living from paycheck to paycheck, and that isn’t right, especially when the average millionaire gets \$100,000 a year in tax breaks from the Bush tax cuts the Republicans in Congress want to make permanent.

We’ve watched one after another of our industries shipped overseas; textiles and steel, autos and electronics. We can’t sustain an economy that doesn’t produce anything.

It's time our major import was something other than oil and our major export was something other than American jobs.