

A Short List of the Achievements of President Obama

Below is a brief listing of a few of the accomplishments President Obama and Congressional Democrats made in 2009-10 before the Republicans took control of the US House of Representatives.

✓ **American Reinvestment and Recovery Act** (aka the Stimulus Bill)

This bill contained (in part):

- The single largest TAX CUT ever!
- The largest investment in green technologies ever!
- Student Loan Reforms and increased funding in Pell Grant awards
- Infrastructure repair and construction to include roads, bridges, passenger rail projects, airport improvements, air traffic control upgrades, shipyard improvements, etc.
- Expansion of internet and wireless services
- Cleanup of radioactive waste
- Funding for state and municipal law enforcement agencies
- Funding to Small Business Administration to expand loans

✓ **Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights Act**

(aka Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure Act)

The act banned unfair and predatory practices by credit card companies, provided new consumer protections and established the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

✓ **Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act**

Extends legal protection to persons attacked because of their gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. This is the first federal law to provide protections to transgender persons.

✓ **Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act**

Provides funding to prevent layoffs in public education (saved/created 161,000 jobs) and authorized Medicaid funding to provide low-income persons access to medical care and treatment.

✓ **Ended the eight-year ban on Embryonic Stem Cell research funding**

President Obama signed an executive order to end the ban on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research giving new hope to millions suffering with debilitating illness.

✓ **Signed the Repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell**

Gays and lesbians are now permitted to serve openly in the US Armed Forces without having to hide who they are.

A Short List of the Achievements of President Obama, cont'd

- ✓ **Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act**
The most comprehensive change to financial regulation since the Great Depression.
- ✓ **Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act**
- ✓ **State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)**
- ✓ **Food Safety Modernization Act**
- ✓ **Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act**
- ✓ **The Affordable Care Act** (aka Healthcare Reform)
A few of the benefits for Pennsylvania's residents
 - Small business tax credits that makes it easier for businesses to provide coverage to their employees and make premiums more affordable
 - Closes Medicare Part D "donut-hole"
 - Early retiree reinsurance program for those who retire before becoming eligible for Medicare
 - Eliminates lifetime limits on coverage
 - Insurance companies are now banned from dropping people when they get sick
 - Insurance companies can no longer exclude children because of a pre-existing condition
 - Patients' choice of doctors is protected
 - Prohibits insurers from requiring prior authorization before a woman sees an ob-gyn
 - Ensures access to emergency care
 - Extends coverage to young adults on their parents' plan up to age 26
 - Increased funding for Community Health Centers
- ✓ **Authorized the raid on Osama bin Laden's compound**
- ✓ **Signed new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with Russia**
- ✓ **Issued Chesapeake Bay Protection & Restoration executive order**
- ✓ **American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act**
- ✓ **Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act**