



## Carroll Campbell **Tough District Jobs**

- Tour 2010 -

*Note: Carroll released his jobs plan as he began a tour of South Carolina's First Congressional District stopping to do tough jobs along the way highlighting the district's tourism, seafood, transportation, and other industries.*

### **Carroll Campbell Jobs and Economic Growth Plan**

My Jobs Plan is centered on lowering taxes, reducing regulations, and unleashing the entrepreneurial spirit – just as President Ronald Reagan did to recover from economic problems. It includes a relentless focus on promoting our ports, our outdoor heritage, and the quality workers who live here – just as my father Governor Carroll Campbell did to create jobs.

Relying on the philosophies of these two great leaders, we can chart a course for a great economic future in South Carolina – a state primed for economic growth with its location, climate, and workforce.

#### **1. REDUCE THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED**

South Carolina ranks sixth, nationally, in unemployment. This is unacceptable.

We need leaders in South Carolina who will focus on jobs – both from a policy perspective in Washington and from a promotional perspective representing South Carolina as a premier business destination to the rest of the nation and world.

As a small business owner who has employed more than 500 people in this district, I understand the burden payroll taxes place on the employer as well as the employee. Many employees do not realize that their payroll taxes, also known as FICA, must be matched dollar for dollar by their employer.

In Congress, I will propose legislation to reduce the burden on small businesses by eliminating a percentage of the payroll tax for new hires for one year. Not only will this put more money into the pockets of the employees themselves, but it also will give the small business owners more money to hire more workers and take people off the unemployment rolls.

Since I first proposed this idea in speeches and talks last year, one of my opponents has joined

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me in this call. However, a complete elimination of the payroll taxes - as my opponent has tried to stretch my idea into - would jeopardize our seniors who rely upon Social Security benefits paid from the trust fund financed by FICA taxes.

We must implement this plan with an eye on the trust fund to ensure that reductions do not harm currently retired workers. I look forward to scoring my plan in Congress and working with the trustees to ensure this plan is implemented with no harm to current retirees.

To ensure that taxpayers are protected, we must streamline unemployment benefit spending. Thousands of the unemployed have lost faith. We must encourage them to keep fighting to find work as we put plans in place to create jobs.

We can't allow unemployment benefits to simply become permanent dependence on the government. I am convinced that the vast majority of unemployed want to work; however, we need to provide incentives to ensure their job search goes on. Those drawing benefits who cannot find work after a period of time should be required to enter into training or continuing education in their current field of expertise or in a new field.

In order to adequately train South Carolina workers, we must promote South Carolina's technical schools. Education centers like Horry-Georgetown Technical College and Trident Technical College must be equipped with the tools necessary to educate and train the unemployed and prepare them for entry or re-entry into the workplace.

To further ensure that the taxpayers' money is spent wisely, those who receive unemployment benefits after a period of time should be subject to random drug screening and penalties for failure.

I will work to grow our economy and allow businesses to expand and offer jobs to the unemployed by pushing fiscally conservative ideas. I will fight to cut taxes. I will fight to cut government spending. And I will oppose additional stimulus spending that is more about perpetuating government waste than truly empowering South Carolina businesses to create jobs.

## **2. COMPLETE I-73**

My plan involves completing the I-73 project to better serve the needs of the tourism industry. This gateway will bring tourism dollars to Myrtle Beach and will open wide the opportunity to expand businesses across Horry County.

The Corridor is an investment in South Carolina's economy that will result in thousands of new jobs, billions in South Carolina workers' salaries, and even more in state revenue. This link to Horry County will enable the rest of the world to recognize the enormous potential of the Grand Strand.

Completing the "40-Mile Connector" will cut down traffic time for tourists to get to the beach, will reduce traffic fatalities, and will provide the coastal regions with an outlet in the case of an

emergency.

I am grateful for the \$10 million recently allocated toward I-73; however, it is a drop in the bucket of the \$300 million required to finish the project. The government has been obligated to complete this project and has been taking taxpayer money to fund it. When elected, I will fight hard to get I-73 to the top of the Federal Highway Funding Priority list.

### **3. DREDGE THE PORT OF GEORGETOWN**

The Port of Georgetown has fallen by the wayside to the detriment of our community. It has resulted in lost jobs and lost opportunities. We must return the port to its former prominence.

An integral part of my plan is to provide funding through the SPA to dredge the Georgetown Port. This will finalize multiple job creation opportunities already signed.

We can enter into public-private partnerships that involve the business community to help expand the ports and expand our economic growth. The \$12 million necessary to dredge the port is a small price to pay for the thousands of new jobs the Port will bring to the state for years to come. Additionally, it will increase state revenue and economic opportunity for other small businesses.

Landing prospective clients at the Port could open up over 500 immediate jobs across Georgetown and Horry counties. The ripple-effect of the Port's successes will be enormous. It will provide an opportunity for the Georgetown steel mill to run at full capacity again. It will give local trucking companies the ability to create jobs. And it will revitalize the real estate and hospitality markets across the county.

We cannot let this opportunity pass us by.

### **4. SUPPORT AND GROW SMALL BUSINESS**

I will stand strong for our "Right to Work" policies and against unfair Union practices.

Because I defended our ports by not allowing unionized labor to run them, I was forced to vacate a leadership position with the State Ports Authority. Despite adversity, I will not back down to pressure from big labor unions or those who support them.

I will do the same in Washington – I will lead based on principles, not popularity. I will actively work to stop jobs-killing bills like *The Employee Free Choice Act*, which would allow unions to take over businesses across the country. We must keep South Carolina a business-friendly, right-to-work state.

Businesses that provide jobs and economic opportunities should be rewarded. We can provide tax incentives to companies that expand their labor pool. Offering tax breaks, such as a one-year tax break on payroll taxes for any new hires, will maintain and grow our existing work force.

When I get to Washington, I will support any legislation that will overhaul the tax code in 2011 with the ultimate goal of reducing the tax burden on individuals and businesses. I will advocate for the Fair Tax, Flat Tax, and any tax reform that transforms the 60,000-page IRS code into a simpler, fairer, smaller one.

With every action, my goal will be to promote more job creation and help our small businesses thrive.

## **5. EXPAND U.S. 521**

When elected, I will push to expand U.S. Route 521 to 4 lanes from Andrews to I-95. This expansion will ease access from the port of Georgetown to I-95. It will allow for future industrial growth in Georgetown, Williamsburg, and Clarendon Counties. The improvement will provide a safer and faster route for tourists wanting to go the beaches in the South Strand. Finally, it will give people a more effective evacuation route in case of an emergency.

## **6. IMPROVE OTHER INFRASTRUCTURE**

We must complete the I-26 expansion to better serve the needs of current and future port customers, support the growth and expansion of distribution facilities in the First Congressional District, and assist communities in the district to provide shovel-ready sites that will support the overall state and regional development plans.

Any federal road must be efficient and safe. I-26 connects the Lowcountry to the rest of the world and is the bridge for the Port of Charleston to get its products to the rest of the country. Additionally, it serves as a hurricane evacuation route. Thus, I-26 must be in top condition and properly maintained.

To account for the tremendous recent growth and even bigger potential in the area, I will work with county and state leaders to complete the Dorchester Road and Bacons Bridge Road expansion projects. The completion of these projects will not only improve the quality of life for residents but also attract new businesses to North Charleston and Summerville. The increased revenue brought to Dorchester County by this growth will help fund new schools for the Dorchester 2 School District, which desperately needs them.

We must use our ports and highways to attract and grow distribution facilities in our district. An effective relationship and network of interstates and ports will make South Carolina's First District an ideal location for distribution facilities to call home.

## **7. STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

With a deep commitment to recruiting businesses to our state, South Carolina's economy can flourish. I plan to assign a staff member to work directly with the Department of Commerce, State Chamber of Commerce, SC State Ports Authority, and any other Economic Development

recruiting entity to provide the necessary support in recruiting opportunities to the district. I will work to provide the Port of Charleston with the necessary resources to return her as the leading container port in the world.

I will visit monthly with individual companies in the district to learn what their needs are and how to provide assistance to help them grow their business. I will be a voice in Washington for South Carolina's businesses.

I will work with the district's local leadership to create a regional economic authority approach. This would be similar to the Upstate and Orangeburg Economic Development Alliances, which are funded by the private sector. Cooperative public-private relationships will be integral to securing our economic future.

By making South Carolina a business-friendly state, we will encourage companies like Boeing to the area and develop relationships with knowledge-based industry – attracting scientists, doctors, and engineers to the area. We will also encourage South Carolina students and residents to stay here for higher education and stay for their careers.

My plan includes providing and supporting the growth of South Carolina by working directly with the Governor in promoting his Economic Development strategy. This partnership will further our goals and promote our state.

## **8. PROMOTE TOURISM**

South Carolina's coasts are among the most beautiful in the world. We must advocate for and protect our natural resources, which bring tourism dollars to our state year-after-year. Since so much of our economy is dependent on tourism, I will promote our coasts as a world-class destination.

This will include giving with the local Chambers and Tourism offices the support necessary to provide a more regional tourism effort, enhancing the overall air service to the First Congressional District by bringing more international based flights to the area, and working with the state and local tourism offices to promote both this district and state internationally.

## **9. OPPOSE GOVERNMENT MANDATES AND UNFAIR LABOR LAWS**

I will repeal government-mandated Health Care. We must work to make health care affordable, accessible, and transferable; but we must keep health care in the private sector. Mandates will hinder medical innovation, lower the quality of health care, and have a devastating effect on American businesses.

I am a strong supporter of the House Republican plan which will reduce deficits by \$68 billion over ten years and reduce private insurance premiums by up to 10 percent. It also creates "Universal Access Programs" so that patients with pre-existing conditions can receive the care they need.

We must strengthen doctor-patient relationships, not government-patient ones. Small businesses should be allowed to pool together to purchase plans at lower costs, and coverage should be obtainable regardless of pre-existing conditions. Like safe driver discounts, we should reward consumers who make healthy lifestyle choices.

I will oppose unfair, unconstitutional labor laws. I will oppose unfunded mandates placed on individual states. I will support companies so that they might hire the most qualified people, and not fall victim to government-mandated quota requirements.

I will fight to pass H.R. 3307 to protect the livelihood of South Carolina recreational and commercial fisherman and the tourism industry, which relies on fisherman from around the country coming to fish in South Carolina's waters. The bill would direct the Commerce Department to conduct a study of the South Atlantic red snapper population and prohibit the government from closing fishing areas before such a report demonstrates the need for limiting fishing in these waters.

## **10. BECOME ENERGY INDEPENDENT**

I will oppose all forms of the job-killing cap-and-trade/climate taxes and any additional federal regulations on carbon emissions.

The cap-and-trade proposals currently in Washington would impose massive fines and fees on businesses, hurting economic development and shuttering businesses across the country. In this economic climate, these government mandates on businesses would result in millions of additional lost jobs.

We must reduce our dependence on foreign energy and become more self-reliant. We can supply our own energy in a way that is clean, safe, and effective.

I will take the "all-of-the-above" energy approach: I will encourage offshore energy exploration for natural gas, promote nuclear power as the most affordable and environmentally safe energy option, ease and reduce redundant and outdated government regulations on our energy suppliers, and actively promote energy efficiency with the state's power suppliers.