



Garrett A. Hughes
writer

Opinion Columnists and Trump Supporters: Take Note

by [Garrett A. Hughes](#)

Friday, February 21, 2025 6:45 PM

Opinion columnists have been writing of late that the Democratic party is out of touch with the American people. Nothing could be further from the truth. Technology has overwhelmed us, and as a result our economic world has shrunk dramatically. We need to figure out how we are going to employ tens of millions of people now, and even more in the near future. Not addressing this problem will result in additional catastrophic "solutions" — like the one that the Trump presidency is attempting to force on us by means of "executive orders".

Keep the historical record in mind:

Democrats have consistently promoted the *general welfare* of all the people of the United States. Below is list of important legislation that our Democratic representatives in Congress have enacted within our lifetime. It is worth noting that Republican legislators in that same Congress have consistently fought to thwart the enactment of this legislation.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1933–1945)

1. Social Security Act (1935) – Established the Social Security system, providing pensions for retirees, unemployment insurance, and aid for dependent children and the disabled.
2. Fair Labor Standards Act (1938) – Established a minimum wage, maximum work hours, and child labor protections.
3. Wagner Act (1935) – Strengthened labor rights by protecting union organizing and collective bargaining.
4. Public Works Administration (PWA) & Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) (1933) – Created jobs through large-scale public infrastructure and environmental projects.
5. National Industrial Recovery Act (1933) – Encouraged industrial recovery and established fair labor standards (later ruled unconstitutional, but influenced future labor laws).

Lyndon B. Johnson (1963–1969)

1. Medicare and Medicaid (1965) – Established health care programs for seniors (Medicare) and low-income individuals (Medicaid).
2. Civil Rights Act (1964) – Prohibited discrimination in public places, employment, and education.
3. Voting Rights Act (1965) – Eliminated barriers to voting, particularly for African Americans.
4. Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1965) – Provided federal funding to public schools to improve education, especially for low-income students.
5. Food Stamp Act (1964) – Made permanent the federal food assistance program for low-income Americans.
6. Economic Opportunity Act (1964) – Created programs like Head Start, Job Corps, and Community Action Programs as part of the War on Poverty.

Bill Clinton (1993–2001)

1. Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (1996) – Overhauled welfare by replacing Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), emphasizing work requirements.
2. Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (1997) – Expanded health coverage for low-income children.
3. Family and Medical Leave Act (1993) – Provided job-protected leave for family and medical reasons.
4. Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Expansion (1993) – Increased tax benefits for low-income working families.

Barack Obama (2009–2017)

1. Affordable Care Act (ACA) (2010) – Expanded health insurance coverage, prohibited denial of coverage for preexisting conditions, and created health care exchanges.
2. Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act (2010) – Established financial regulations to prevent a repeat of the 2008 financial crisis.
3. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (2009) – Stimulated economic recovery through infrastructure projects, tax cuts, and unemployment benefits after the Great Recession.
4. Every Student Succeeds Act (2015) – Replaced No Child Left Behind, giving states more control over education policy.

Joe Biden (2021–2025)

1. American Rescue Plan Act (2021) – Provided direct payments, expanded unemployment benefits, and increased child tax credits to help with COVID-19 recovery.
2. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (2021) – Funded roads, bridges, public transit, broadband, and clean water projects.
3. Inflation Reduction Act (2022) – Lowered prescription drug costs, expanded ACA subsidies, and invested in climate and energy initiatives.
4. CHIPS and Science Act (2022) – Boosted domestic semiconductor manufacturing and technological research.
5. PACT Act (2022) – Expanded health care for veterans exposed to toxic substances.