

## **The Challenge of Shared Sacrifice in 2008 and Beyond**

### ***“Shared Sacrifice and Shared Benefit for the Common Good ”***

#### **Realistic U.S. Economic Re-Structuring**

Our economy has actually receded back toward a state of economic normalcy with the rest of the first world nations. The Golden Age of American Capitalism that ran from the late 1940's to well into the 1960's has past into history. We all need to acknowledge its passing and prudently determine how We will proceed from this point on, for the Common Good. And I do mean for the Common Good – with all of our citizens in the boat!

I must say that this subject matter has been the most tedious and difficult to consider and develop, as well as trying to determine how to present it to you in a fairly concise format. I may well be criticized for being a bit wordy and/or redundant in the writing of CS2. And that is fine — my feelings cannot be hurt so long as the words are clear enough and the messages are delivered well enough that the concepts and solutions offered may be fairly considered by you.

Now let us review our Economic Reform approach.

This is a rather direct public policy. It will be fair, but decisive when it comes to giving the National System the *good jolt* — it so disparately requires. Our Economic Reform approach is overviewed under the following three (3) headings:

1. Macro Economics – Top Down Industry Restructuring
2. Industry Revitalization and Creation
3. Micro-Economics – Supplementing the Consumer Economy

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#### **The Heart of Our Problems and the Solutions**

Do you want to know what our underlying and core economic problem is my fellow Americans?

One theme runs through this overall reform program, being that the Cost of Living (COL) in America has become too high for more and more American individuals and families to have a decent standard of living as each month passes. Please consider that bone-marrow reality for a few moments because that is the bottom line.

How you are affected? How are those you personally care about affected? And finally how are those Americans you observe in person and/or through the media affected?

Not to have a luxurious life style, but the basics of food, housing, viable employment, health care, education, safety, energy — whether as gas for your vehicle or heating and air conditioning for their homes, and the peace of a reasonably comfortable life in old age. People in each of the Generational Groups referenced earlier struggle with those “necessity of life” issues everyday.

This is the “people side” of society’s most complex problems to be solved.

At the same time, American businesses small and large also struggle against the COL. Forgetting about taxes that every business *must* be required to contribute in some portion, they too, struggle with energy costs, being able to offer health care benefits at all to their employees, rising rental/lease rates for their business, and consumers with less dollars to buy their good and services. Further and dependent of their line of business, brutal competition from foreign entities with comparatively slave-type labor rates and no government oversight of manufacturing quality or product content – and knowing that the playing field will never really be level.

And for stock-held corporations, the task is making annual stockholder dividends happen as if by magic, when our economy is contracting without doing damage to their own employees’ livelihood and the National System by sending parts of the operation overseas.

This is the “business side” of society’s most complex problems to be solved.

### **The Basic Requirement to be Served**

*Therefore*, the underlying challenge is to develop and deliver fair and practical policy approaches that will both stabilize and reduce the costs of the necessities of life for our people and American businesses, as well as increasing the real buying ability of the American consumer. Not exactly what you could call a walk in the park.

As you consider the remainder of Part 3 with the ten (10) proposals it offers, and the overall content of CS2 please do keep the challenge in those 56 words clearly in mind. Again, our united ability to prudently and practically, confront, and satisfy that most complex requirement will determine the success or failure of this our Second and Final American Revolution and determine the future of the nation We the People love so very much.

No one said this was going to be easy, but We can accomplish anything when standing together.

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## **1. Macro Economics – Top Down Industry Restructuring**

This is where the AIR Program Restructuring of Existing Industries applies. As just reviewed this somewhat odd set of bed-fellows has been categorized as *National Infrastructure Industries* (NII).

The rationale for converting each of these critical nation industries into centralized, non-profit organizations that will be administered by newly developed, Industry Management Consortiums is detailed shortly in each of their respective CS2 Proposals. It will deliberately and radically Change corporate America for the Common Good.

I will only offer a few comments on each industry proposal with regard to their place in the overall Economic Reform program. What I will say about this entire group is that over the last few decades they have grown to be more politically powerful than our Democracy should have ever allowed. However, during the Bush II years and in a period when more and more Americans are struggling to make a living, this group above all others has functionally acted with predatory and extreme irresponsibility toward and against the people, other businesses, our society, and the National System as a whole. They have acted just the predatory people that after a major natural disaster come around selling thirsty people a gallon of water for 5 to 10 times its regular price. What do you call that?

Each of these industries hold the annual delivery profits and stock dividends in higher purpose than the Common Good of the general public and the nation overall. Their only defense being, as one Oil executive was actually bold enough to publicly state, ‘making profits for the stockholders is his job, not looking out for the public.’ The Plain Truth. Our response to that going forward is that our job is to insure the Common Good of the public and the overall National System, not looking out for the stockholders of predatory industries!

Therefore, We the People are now forced to act to remove these corporations from the burden of stockholders which is driving their publicly, irresponsible business practices and draining the economic life out of our National System. And in the process We will modify their function within the National System so that it practically serves individuals, families, and other businesses for the Common Good of All.

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## **Existing Industry Re-Structuring**

### **Proposal 22 Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans**

The proposal contained therein is the only way We shall achieve providing Health Care Insurance to ALL Americans in the next couple of years — and ramping up in 2009 if We get busy and demanding. Consider that the Democratic presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama – are talking about how they will be tough in negotiating with the Medical Insurance Industry. That will be far easier after We replace the Industry’s management and negotiators.

The Republicans keep talking about tax incentives and Health Savings Accounts like everyone can utilize them. The industry lobbyists that promote those approaches with Congress know full well that large segments of the population cannot afford such things. And believe me somebody is making money off of those Health Savings Accounts or they would not be offered. When We have National Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans people will not need tax incentives and Health Savings Accounts! They can do other things with the money – like consume!

In Massachusetts they have implemented the ‘near’ mandatory purchase of health insurance and they are fining people that do not sign up, with the fine increasing each year. And they are already beginning to issue waivers to those that can justify why they cannot afford it. Bad policy.

In the CNN program Broken Government, *Health Care — Critical Condition* that aired after the Super Bowl on February 3<sup>rd</sup> it was noted that some 100,000 American die preventable deaths each year because of our current Medical System not taking care of people. Our lives are cheap to some corporate executives. It is false profits over people, and it will end soon.

### **Proposal 23 The Pharmaceutical Industry**

The major Pharms on the same track as the Medical Insurance Industry and We will soon have prescription and over the counter drugs at more reasonable prices. The new Pharmaceutical Consortium will be negotiating with the new single entity in the Medical Insurance Consortium and working for the public good. This is not Fantasyland folks! This is the new reality that We will *vote into existence* at the polls this November.

### **Proposal 24 The Tobacco (Nailing the Most Deadly Drug) Industry**

The Tobacco Industry — that in recent years was somewhat penalized when it was found out they had been intentionally spiking of cigarettes to keep their

'users' smoking and 'hook' new nicotine addicts — has had their day. The charter of the American Tobacco Consortium will require them to reduce the level of nicotine and other addictive ingredients in cigarettes in a "couple" of years by 75% or so. Thus, making it easier for more of our people to quit and harder for teenagers to get hooked. Any questions?

Proposal 25 The Oil Industry

It is the end of Big Oil in America. No more of that industry overtly and covertly suppressing all forms of alternative fuel development and use. We will work to stabilize our national consumption of Oil and Oil-based products, mainly plastics, and then replace them with other options. Electric cars and plastic made from domestically grown Hemp for starters!

All for the sake of our economy, the environment, and that little thing called National Security.

Proposal 26 The Banking and Credit Card Industry

The Banking and Credit Card Consortium will oversee the final consolidation of the major banks, as well as bringing the Credit Card vendors under centralized control. Banking will be transformed into a National System resource to help individuals, families, and businesses small and large to progress. The Credit Card function will become less predatory, and interest rates will be capped and slowly decreased. Further, they will modify their operational configuration with their merchants to the model that is used in Europe, where it makes Identify Theft far less an issue.

Proposal 27 The Defense (Military Industrial Complex) Industry

Whether it is before or after you read Proposal 27, please get the DVD *Why We Fight*. I mention that movie probably too many times in CS2, only because it is critical to the public's understanding of the out-of-control Defense Industry and why We were led into Iraq. And I am not at all peace-nik!

Without putting our National Defense at risk, We will cap Defense Department spending, reduce our Iraq configuration and objective, and once and for all assume command and control the Military Industrial Complex. See Proposal 27.

## **2. Industry Revitalization and Creation**

This portion of our Economic Reformation program addresses the requirement to expand existing, as well as create new industries to provide domestic employment for our American workers. The four (4) New and Renewal Industry proposals will be presented next. There are a few comments on their role in our Economic Reformation.

### **New and Renewal Industry Re-Structuring**

#### **Proposal 18 Re-Cycling as a Major Domestic Industry**

Each of the 435 U.S. Congressional Districts (USD) contains at least 600,000 Americans. Each will work with the major Waste and Recycling Management corporations to build recycling facilities. All Americans and businesses will begin to recycle plastic, metal, paper, etc. Consider that about half of your daily trash can be re-cycled rather than going to the landfill. This will create real jobs in every USD and decrease the draw on natural resources. And instead of shipping some of our trash to China where they process it and make products they then turn sell back to us – We will figure out how to start doing it here at home for fun and profit!

Remember every time someone throws a plastic bottle or container in the trash, they are putting re-useable **oil** back in the ground!

#### **Proposal 19 Hemp Industry – The Truth for a Change**

You cannot get-a-buzz from smoking or eating Hemp – cannabis' cousin plant! American farmers have wanted to grow it for decades. We can make rope, canvas, cloth, paper (the U.S. Constitution was written on it), plastics, home heating oil, diesel fuel, and other things from that wicked plant! So much for seventy (70) years of federally insured and well-lobbied domestic propaganda.

#### **Proposal 20 Domestic Cannabis Industry**

With the Pharmaceutical Industry, their biggest opponent on Capitol Hill neutralized, cannabis will be fully legalized and de-criminalized in the America – and it should take effect by mid-2009. Seventy (70) years of stupidity and abuse of our citizens to satisfy Special Interests will end. An \$87-plus Billion dollar business will be run by the states, creating jobs, and decreasing crime. It will finally be easily available to the sick and without a prescription. It will ease their pain and help them to eat.

**Proposal 21 Take Back Industries (TBIs) – Domestic Manufacturing**

Using a small business creation model that I call an Income Generating Entity (IGE), We will begin to reclaim businesses and industries, such as clothing manufacturing that in recent years have been lost to China, India, Mexico, etc. Using long-term, sole source contracts, and low-interest start-up loans to create small business based (non-stock involved), manufacturing employment for our people.

Remember that Proposal 7 – The U.S. Re-Employment System will be educating and training our people all over the country to be ready and able for employment. People will no longer be sitting around and drawing checks. They will be available for part-time and full-time jobs within their county or city while being trained. Resources will be made available for existing and new businesses to utilize as needed.

**Beyond That Starter Set**

Once We have broken the ice and have finally begun our national re-tooling process, the public's confidence and the expectations will be raised. There are other opportunities waiting to be ceased upon by the American small and large business community. The American entrepreneurial spirit lives in small towns and big cities all across our nation and it will be fed.

With the restructuring of the Oil Industry, the Automobile Industry can be freed from their Oil's lobbying that has so suppressed alternative fuel technologies. In a very short time, there can be alternative fuel facilities networked across the country. There are about 170,000 gas stations across America and We will soon be able to do whatever needs to be done with them.

The use of Dual Fuel cars and trucks will become a national priority as We — FINALLY — get very serious and realistic about our National Energy Policy. We can and will dictate that those vehicles are made in America by new non-stockholder, involved subsidiaries of our Automobile Makers.

Also, with a new and improved “green friendly” National Energy Policy, many business and job opportunities will be created — businesses that can utilize the IGE business creation model.

The Electric Car will be dug up, will be built in this country, and driven by our people.

And there will be countless other opportunities once the ball gets rolling. We can and We will do these hard things! And with each passing month things will get easier.

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### **3. Micro-Economics – Supplementing Our Consumer Economy**

The concept is simple, straight-forward, and I believe a very practical economic function to add to the day-to-day workings of our National System. It is the creation of the Supplemental Income Stream (SIS) Program for our citizens and certain long-term, legal occupants, only.

#### **Our Problem “To be Addressed”**

Yes, this goes back to the Cost-of-Living (COL) in America and hard fact that more Americans all the time are not making enough monthly income to live. That is reality, and as a Democratic society We can no longer let it continue.

Therefore, instead of acting like the on-going problem does not exist or throwing the occasional Band-Aid on it when the bleeding gets real bad, let’s confront it and begin to alter national budgeting and tax policy to properly address the public’s economic issue.

The absolutely, critical need to devise such a supplemental income flow within America’s National System is an economic and societal requirement. It is a *key indicator* of our determination to develop a new Democratic Economic System that is truly designed to address the Common Good of all of our citizens.

Around the world, too many nations either give lip service or simply ignore the economic imbalances which naturally evolve in all countries. Today, We technically must consider America in the group! We certainly do have various public service and help programs, BUT they are not getting this problem resolved and each month more of our fellow Americans are struggling to have a “reasonable” life, if not to survive. That is not intended to be dramatic. The human statistics verify this degradation within our society.

And do not consider these the words of a Liberal that is rolling out another public give-away program. Not me and not this program!

WE can either determine how to fairly and practically resolve this totally natural, but always destructive economic imbalance or be guaranteed to continue paying a growing price for the negative consequences it puts on the National System – crime, negative health conditions, drug use, etc. It is a sure thing – simple cause and effect.

Just as 1776, Democracy in Government changed and forever interrupted Tyrannies’ reign over the world. We the People of 2008 have it within our Power to, as I write elsewhere in CS2, present Economic Democracy to the world.

Like it or not, many European nations and Canada under England's direction provide the best economic models to have been developed thus far. *To those that ridicule* them as having a “*socialized economic system*” I say get over it! They have for example, a “socialized” Medical Systems that frankly serves their people better than ours does. The glaring difference is that they serve ALL of their people and promote both preventative and good health programs. Not that they did it intentionally, but after World War II was finished, everything was destroyed, and the Depression continued there longer than it did in America.

Europe was forced to create public systems with limited dollars that needed to be shared and that dealt with the common misery of all their people. If We would have had to re-build from scratch as they did, our systems would look the same today. The Plain Truth.

Enough on that for now.

I fully acknowledge that this program is not perfectly worked out yet, but neither was Democracy when We started out either. This is not an easy program to consider or create, but in due time it will prove its public worth and become an accepted and natural part of our National System.

I absolutely believe this is a key part of the answer to our growing COL and struggling, consumer-based economy issues. It ties into the other parts of An American Agenda. The Changes overlap in purpose and public benefit. The Big Picture must be considered.

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### **Purpose**

Instead of a “*random*” Economic Stimulus package used to send some dollars into people's pockets this will become a “*routine*” flow, most likely on a monthly basis – when it can really be of use by the public.

The primary *factoid*, to keep in mind in this scenario is related to the side issue of the routine extension of unemployment benefits. It has been stated that for every \$100 issued, the benefit produced is about \$175 back into the economy. Those are the ‘official’ numbers thrown around, and even if it is only \$150, that is still a positive return on investment on taxpayer dollars or dollars We would need to borrow for a given program.

### **Random Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) Approach**

It is early February 2008 and The Congress and the White House are currently struggling over an ESP program in response to the start of the 2008 Recession.

This is the second such ESP program offered by the Bush II Administration.

The “random” ESP approach is used to boost the economy in slow economic times. The White House and Congress are still working out the details of this overall package. The new thus far is that the package could include:

- direct checks being sent out to individuals and couples – with \$600 to \$800 dollars for individuals making under x-dollars say \$80 to \$100,000 and double those amounts for couples earning \$160,000 to \$200,000 a year.
- extending un-employment benefits for x-months.
- tax incentives for business to purchase operational equipment, such as computer hardware and software, machinery, etc.
- of course, the ever-popular more tax breaks for businesses.
- there could be other features, as well.

It will be interesting to see how this package takes shape and its final content. An overall cost of \$150 Billion dollars has been mentioned, but what does that number really mean until the details are nailed down.

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As you can recall, this would be the second time the Bush II administration has used this approach. The “talking heads” on the network and cable news programs are of course all over the pros and cons of the approach depending upon the economic and/or political position.

Some say that the tax breaks for business are just another Republican giveaway to business and at best will take some months to produce economic benefits. Some say the while that putting \$600 to \$800 dollars directly into the pockets of consumers will of course provide the economy some help, that it will have only short-term impact just as the previous program.

*The rub* is how much of it would people need to turn right around and spend on basics such as gasoline, utilities, basic food, prescriptions and medical bills, and mortgages – rather of putting it into the retail economy.

Overall and politically it is viewed as certainly better than doing nothing and many in the public could use the funds. However, borrowing Billions more dollars from overseas to do it is not the “best” thing to do, since it will only run the National Debt up further. Time will tell what the ESP it will finally take, the size of the checks to be sent out, and what the final Federal Budget costs will be.

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### **The Supplemental Income Stream (SIS) Program**

The SIS Program is not a replacement for a Random Economic Stimulus Package (ESP) that still could be required in some form, from time-to-time as only future economic events can determine.

The SIS program will not include the typical components of an ESP such as tax incentives for business, tax breaks for business, extending un-employment benefits for x-months or any other stimulus feature.

However, if implemented properly into the National System and prudently fine tuned to support our consumer-based economy, the SIS Program could very well decrease the occurrence of such troubling events.

Again, I am proposing a variation to the typical ESP package that has been used to send a lump sum amount of \$600 to \$800 Americans for the purpose of boosting the consumer economy. It will be smaller amount distributed on a permanent monthly basis.

### **Initial and Long-Term Funding for SIS**

When it comes right down to it, the hardest part in establishing the SIS Program is Common Agreement on its funding sources, especially during the start-up months. So let us first look at the end game strategy of the SIS Program in the National System. Instead of avoiding talking about the dollars and how this program will be practically funded without necessarily borrowing Billions of additional dollars, let's look at it.

And We will not be discussing the potential funding amounts (dollars) required for the SIS Program. Be assured that *the dollars and the details* will be worked out and explained to the public's satisfaction before the Program will be implemented. This program, just like Social Security is a public necessity, and We will make it work. And when time permits We will permanently fix Social Security as well!

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*Our challenge* to be overcome with regard to funding is to reach the point where the gross costs of the SIS monthly allotment expenditures more than offset and thus paid for by a new Federal Sales Tax. I thought that would get your attention, remain calm. That would not be the only funding source for the SIS Program. Some of the possible funding sources are reviewed next and others will be determined as the program is developed toward implementation.

We must approach this tedious issue with the common attitude that *We will identify* the funding sources for the SIS Program, and *not if We will*.

### Critical to Keep in Mind

Remember that only our citizens and certain long-term, legal occupants will be eligible to receive SIS allotments. It will take a little time in the beginning while the distribution process is refined, especially within the IRS roles. Some non-citizen groups may protest this citizen focused arrangement, but frankly We do not Care. If it bothers them too much, they can always leave. It is America and Americans First! No apologies will be offered.

Again, while a host of other people in our country will by virtue of being here, contribute to one or more of these funding sources, they too will not be recipients of the SIS Program monthly allotments. That will include people visiting for pleasure or business; foreign born students; Green Card holders; and around 15 million Illegal Occupants, as well.

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### Federal Sales Tax

A new Federal Sales Tax probably in the range of one half (1/2%) to one percent (1%) on all goods that are normally taxed by the states. This is the 'probable' near and long-term primary funding source that I envision for the SIS Program. This may need to be collected through state sales tax systems until the Federal Tax System is set-up.

### Re-Directed Defense Funding

The initial month or two (2) of the program may well be funds redirected from the Defense Budget. That will wake up a few people, especially those that have not read Proposal 27, yet.

The Defense Department and its bloated Bush II, Budget will be capped, and reduced over a few years to a level that protects the nation, but will not bankrupt us either.

### Borrowed to Prime the Pump

Not my first choice, but it is far better to borrow money that will go directly into the public's pocket and have a potential return of \$1.50 for every \$1.00 borrowed, then dumping it in the Defense Industry.

Internet Sales Tax

The Industry obtained that exemption when it was new, claiming it needed the tax break as it was gearing up. That's fair, even though We have been losing retail sales tax revenue in the process. Internet sales have certainly geared up over the ensuing years with sales volume growing annually. In spite of that growth, their lobbyists in recent months 'convinced' Congress to find the time to renew that exemption. That's not fair unless they have come up with a new publicly, acceptable justification for the extension. Otherwise, the recently renewed exemption from taxes being charged on Internet-based sales will be repealed. Those taxes could be funneled all or in part into the SIS Program and distributed across the country and thus, back into retail and/or Internet sales. That's fair!

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That gives you some ideas of the potential short and long-term funding sources for the SIS Program. I am certain many others will be found, especially once our citizens start getting those SIS Allotment checks each month, want them to be permanent, and increased if possible. The Electorate could get real interested and creative with this.

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### **The SIS Program Monthly Allotment**

This is again a variation to the traditional economic stimulus package approach that occasionally distributes a lump sum to our citizens. While the actual amounts will be determined the following describes the system's practical characteristics and intent.

#### **For Seniors**

Each person currently drawing Social Security Income (SSI) will begin receiving \$35 to \$50 on a monthly basis. This SIS Allotment will be sent in the form of a separate check and not added to their current monthly SSI-based disbursement. No sense in complicating the SSI system.

For those American citizens, only, over say sixty (60) years of age, who for whatever reason are not eligible for SSI, but are receiving some other form of Federal sourced income such as through Medicaid, they will also receive a SIS Allotment check.

#### **For Other Eligible Recipients**

Again that includes other U.S. citizens and certain long-term, legal occupants, only. The initial thought is that all will be included — regardless of annual income!

Each person currently filing IRS, Federal income taxes and at least twenty-one (21) years old will begin receiving \$75 to \$100 on a monthly basis.

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Personally, I believe We should start with the \$50/\$100 ratio to make it instantly worthwhile.

### **Use of the SIS Allotment**

In simple examples, for the person really struggling \$50 or \$100 net cash (non-taxed or reported) each month will be a real help with many things. For someone like "The Donald" they will probably break it into 2 fifties and use it for tips! Excellent.

So how does all that sound to you, my fellow American?

Now let's go look at some real, problem solution proposals!

## **The Ten AIR Proposals**

The American Industry Restructuring proposals address legislation and policies having to do with the operation of certain businesses and industries within America's National System. This grouping is divided into two (2) sets of proposals designated as either New or Renewal Industries – or — those pertaining to Existing Industries.

The first set is designed to enhance and create. It will build upon and initiate new economic opportunities for American businesses and workers.

The second set is designed for absolute confrontation and binding reconciliation. Those are intended to resolve some long-standing and destructive imbalances of influence within the National System that have blatantly assaulted the Common Good of our people. They will most certainly produce the greatest stir. And we need them to do just that!

### **New or Renewal Industries**

This set of proposals concerns the types industries that do exist or that could be developed in order to be of practical benefit to society if approached in a more progressive and realistic manner. These **domestic-based** industries will be developed to provide jobs, goods, and services for Americans right here on our own soil:

- 18 Re-Cycling as a Major Domestic Industry
- 19 Hemp Industry – The Truth for a Change
- 20 Domestic Cannabis Industry
- 21 Take Back Industries (TBIs) – Domestic Manufacturing

### **Existing Industries**

The proposals presented under this heading are focused upon a core group of heavy-hitter industries that are critical to our economic system and the impact the lives of virtually every American good or bad on a regular basis. That's why this particular group has also been categorized as National Infrastructure Industries (NII).

There are *of course* some other industries that could be added, but for now the group presented for Public Review and National Reconciliation is:

- 22 Health Care Insurance for ALL Americans
- 23 The Pharmaceutical Industry
- 24 The Tobacco (Nailing the Most Deadly Drug) Industry
- 25 The Oil Industry

- 26 The Banking and Credit Card Industries
- 27 The Defense (Military Industrial Complex) Industry

How *We the People* determine to come to terms with such entities will define the heart and soul of our Second American Revolution, and to a very, great extent — our National Destiny, as well.

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