
Editorial

Some Lessons for the 110th Congress

There is no question but that most Americans will greet the closing of the 109th Congress with a sigh of relief. This Congress's irresponsibility toward the country, and, most especially toward the future, will be notorious for decades, if not more, to come.

But now the decisive challenge lies ahead. By what *principles* will the 110th Congress guide its activity when it returns to Washington on Jan. 4? True, there is a whole new freshman class of Democrats which understands that it was elected in order to get rid of the abomination known as the Cheney-Bush Administration, and particularly in regards to the war in Iraq. But no "single issue" approach will work, even on an issue as important as this disastrous war, when the world stands in the midst of disintegration on all fronts—economic and financial, as well as political.

Asked to summarize the touchstones which the incoming Congress must utilize, Lyndon LaRouche recommended five:

1. *Remember that Milton Friedman is dead, and his policies should be interred with him.*

This statement references the necessity for Congress to abandon the free-trade and austerity approach which has increasingly dominated the practices of the U.S. government since the early 1970s—with deadly results at home and abroad. In fact, many new Congressmen were elected to combat the Friedmanite free-trade approach which has stripped our manufacturing, and they should keep to that course.

2. *Remember that it is government, not money, which determines the conditions of the health of our economy and our citizens.*

If you needed any proof of this, you need only look at the fact that our current economy is awash in money, and yet the living standards of our citizens, the condition of our infrastructure, and the productive power of our nation are going down the tubes. To reverse this situation, is going to require a true Hamiltonian approach, in which the Federal government takes control of our credit system, puts it through bankruptcy reorganization, and establishes the low-interest, long-term

credit for reconstruction which is essential for getting out of the current disaster.

3. *The key focus for government must be the reconstruction of our national physical infrastructure, in the areas of power, transportation, and water management.*

There is no way in which the United States, and world, economy could ever recover without multi-trillion dollars in investment in rebuilding the infrastructure of this nation. The state of infrastructure determines the productivity of industry, just as it determined the rise of the U.S. economy to world leadership in the eras of Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt. This is the key area in which government funds will make a difference.

4. *Judge all government policies by the impact which they have on the image of man.*

The dignity of *all* citizens of this nation, and all others, must be, as FDR repeatedly stated, the guiding parameter for determining government policies in all areas—from law enforcement, to economics, to social policy. Such guidelines rules out the inhuman policies of torture, health-care-for-profit, and the like, to mention only a few of those policies being carried out by the Bush Administration.

5. *U.S. government policy must always take into consideration the fact that our welfare as Americans, depends upon promoting the welfare of other nations as well.*

Under this principle, it is clear that not only aggressive wars, and self-serving interference in the internal affairs of other nations, are ruled out, but also such policies as the proposed new "Berlin Wall" on the border with Mexico, and other such atrocities. The United States' interests are only served by benevolence toward our neighbors and the world community.

Can we expect our new Congress to follow these maxims? Only if they feel the heat of political pressure from their constituencies. The LaRouche movement, especially the youth, is committed to mobilizing that pressure, and removing the chief obstacles to these policies, Cheney and Bush. Won't you join us?