

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April Fools!

Contact: ODP Press Office

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SCHEDULE FOR CONGRESSMAN ROB PORTMAN

April Fool's Day: 2010

April 1, 2010 REMINDERS

- Send in update for Bush-Cheney Alumni Magazine
- Press Call: Interview with *Outsourcing Weekly*
- Remember to live Tweet from health insurance industry fundraiser

*****Congressman Portman at Home in Washington, D.C.*****

9:00 A.M.: Call w/President Bush, VP Cheney, Karl Rove

*Note: Remind President Bush that you were his "mule" in Congress who helped pass his legislative agenda and ask him to campaign for you across Ohio. Thank Cheney for his donation. Ask for strategic advice.

10:00 A.M.: Tape Interview with Sarah Palin for segment on FOX News

Location: FOX News Studios, Washington, DC

*Note: Tell Palin that you can see Kentucky and Indiana from your house. Thank her for her PAC donation to your campaign and homemade moose jerky.

11:00 A.M.: My Life as a Washington Insider: Guest Lecture to Freshman GOP Members.

Location: The U.S. Capitol

*Note: Reflect on your two decades in Washington. Highlight your accomplishments as the Chief Architect of the Bush Economy: causing the national debt to swell by \$500 billion, ramming through job-killing trade agreements to ship thousands of good-paying jobs overseas.

12:30 P.M.: Health Insurance Industry Endorsement Meeting

Location: American Health Insurance Plans HQ, Washington, DC

*Note: You are meeting with insurance company executives to discuss your plan to repeal health care reform — reiterate your opposition to access to affordable health care for more than 1 million Ohioans, your support for raising premiums on small businesses, keeping

higher prescription costs for seniors, and reinstating abusive insurance company practices that deny coverage.

1:30 P.M.: Tea Party Rally w/Rep. John Boehner

Location: National Mall

*Note: Some Ohio observers are convinced that you are moderate — we need to beat back that narrative and show your true conservative colors. Get loud, get angry. You will receive your “Repeal Health Care” sign on site.

*Note from Jessica: Stay silent should anyone say anything offensive, outrageous, untrue.

2:00 P.M.: Wall St. Bankers Support Group: Overcoming Bonus Envy

Location: RNC Club

*Note: Wall Street Bankers will discuss how your support for deregulation helped them grow too big to fail. Remind them that you wholeheartedly support their agenda to kill all reform measures that would hold Wall Street accountable and protect consumers.

Reiterate that you will always be there for them. No matter what.

3:30 P.M.: Symposium: How to Grow China’s Middle Class

Location: American Enterprise Institute

*Note: Meeting with corporate executives to discuss how tax breaks you supported helped them offshore operations and ship good-paying jobs to China. You will outline your plan to continue to weaken Ohio manufacturing and to export Ohio jobs by supporting the kind of pro-China trade policies that helped the U.S. trade imbalance with China skyrocket.

5:30 P.M.: Lobbyist Reunion at Patton, Boggs & Blow: Featuring Special Guest and former client, deposed Dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier

Location: K Street

*Note: Dictator Duvalier (currently in exile in Paris) would like to thank you personally for your help lobbying the U.S. on behalf of his government and will offer his support for your campaign.

9:00 P.M.: FUNDRAISER--RNC Young Eagles & Chair Michael Steele---Closed Press

CANCELED

CANCELED

Club TBD

Washington, D.C.

~~**Notable Attendees: Michael Steele (RNC Chair), Young Donors.~~

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Bush Nicknamed Portman “The Mule.” According to the [Baltimore Sun](#), President George W. Bush nicknamed Portman “the Mule because of his persistent promotion of the administration’s tax cuts.” [[Baltimore Sun](#), 10/28/06]

Former VP Dick Cheney Contributed \$1,000 to Portman’s Campaign. In August 2009, former Vice President Dick Cheney contributed \$1,000 to Portman U.S. Senate campaign. [CQ Moneyline, accessed 4/1/10]

August 2009: Sarah Palin's PAC Contributed to Portman's Campaign. SarahPAC, former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin's political action committee, contributed to Rob Portman senate campaign in August 2009. [CQ Politics, 8/28/09]

The National Debt Increased \$500 Billion During Portman's Tenure as OMB Director. According to the U.S. Treasury Department, the total public debt outstanding when Portman assumed control of the Office of Management and Budget was \$8,343,987,357,176.86. By the time Portman resigned from OMB, the total public debt outstanding was \$8,817,082,504,084.05, an increase of \$473,295,146,907.19. [[Roll Call](#), 5/30/06; AP, 6/19/07; U.S. Treasury Department, accessed [7/30/08](#)]

Portman Was Advocate for Bush's Vision for Free Trade. In a 2006 op-ed in the [Wall Street Journal](#), Portman stressed he would be an advocate for Bush's free trade vision. "The imperative remains for our trading partners to show more resolve in opening their markets. Free trade is at the center of President Bush's vision of a world of expanding economic opportunity, prosperity and freedom. Our pursuit of that vision will continue in an uninterrupted and unaltered fashion no matter who speaks for the president in global trade talks. The U.S. has made a clear choice to stand up to forces of economic isolationism and protectionism." [Portman and Schwab, [Wall Street Journal](#), [5/01/06](#)]

- **Portman: I Share Bush's Vision on Trade.** In a 2005 op-ed, Portman wrote, "I share President George W. Bush's vision of using the power of trade to pull people up and expand political as well as economic freedom. He has charged me to build on his agenda of opening markets globally through the WTO; regionally through free trade arrangements in Latin America and the Middle East; and bilaterally through Free Trade Agreements." [Portman, [International Herald Tribune](#), [5/02/05](#)]

The Hill: Portman Instrumental in Getting CAFTA through Congress. According to [The Hill](#), Portman played a key role in convincing Congress to pass the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). [[The Hill](#), 7/20/06]

- **Chamber President: We Would Not Have CAFTA Without Portman.** In May of 2006, President of the US Chamber of Commerce Tom Donohue said that Portman was "the only reason we got the CAFTA deal." [US Chamber Of Commerce Access 2006 Small Business Summit, 5/12/06]
- **Portman Described Himself As The "Quarterback" Of The CAFTA Effort.** In an interview with reporters after the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) has passed the House by only two votes, Portman described himself as the "quarterback" of the effort to pass CAFTA. [CNN, Inside Politics, 7/28/05]

While Portman Served As US Trade Representative, US Trade Deficit With China Soared to \$200 Billion, Leading to Loss of American Jobs. Portman served as US Trade Representative from May of 2005 to April of 2006. During 2004, America's trade deficit with China was \$161 billion. During 2005, the trade deficit with China rose to \$202 billion. U.S. manufacturers contend that China's Yuan is undervalued by as much as 15 to 40 percent, giving Chinese goods an unfair advantage that has cost America nearly 3 million manufacturing jobs since 2000. Portman was criticized by members of Congress for failing to effectively address China's continued manipulation of its currency and for failing to take new action in the WTO or launching new efforts to enforce trade laws. [[Knight Ridder](#), 4/13/06; [US News and World Report](#), 4/24/06; [The Hollywood Reporter](#), 2/15/06; Census Foreign Trade Statistics, [www.census.gov](#)]

Portman Frequently Voted to Support Trade with China. Portman has consistently voted in favor of trade with China.

- **2001:** Portman voted against a joint resolution to deny the president's request to provide "normal trade relations" (formerly known as "most-favored-nation" or MFN trade status) for items produced in China for the period July 2001 through July 2002. The resolution was defeated, 169-259. [HJRES 50, [Vote 255](#), 7/19/01]

- **2000:** Portman voted against a joint resolution disapproving of the President’s decision to provide normal trade relations for items produced in China from the period July 2000 through July 2001. The resolution was defeated 147-281.[HJR 103, [Vote 405](#), 7/18/00]
- **2000:** Portman voted against a motion to instruct the House Ways and Means and International Relations committees to add to a China trade bill language revoking China’s permanent normal trade relations status if China invades, blockades or attacks Taiwan. The motion was rejected 176-258. [HR 4444, [Vote 227](#), 5/24/00]
- **1998:** Portman voted against a resolution to deny the president’s request to provide ‘normal trade relations’ (formerly known as ‘most-favored-nation’ or MFN trade status) for items produced in China for the period July 1998 through July 1999. The resolution was defeated 166-264. [HJR 121, [Vote 317](#), 7/22/98]

March 2010: Portman Pledged to Repeal Healthcare Reform. After the U.S. House of Representatives passed comprehensive healthcare reform in March 2010, Portman pledged to repeal the law if elected to the Senate. “Democrats have ignored the will of the people in ramming through a healthcare bill filled with backroom deals and special pay-offs that will do nothing to contain costs, much less lower them,” Portman spokeswoman Jessica Towhey said. “Rob Portman believes there’s a much better way to lower costs and expand coverage.” [[Washington Post](#), Plum Line, [3/23/10](#)]

Lobbyist: Portman Deserves To Be On The Mount Rushmore Of The Financial Services Industry. Stuart Brahs, a lobbyist for Principle Financial Group, told [Institutional Investor](#) magazine in January of 2006, “Portman’s face belongs on the Mount Rushmore of the financial services industry,” for his work on pension reform. [[Institutional Investor](#), 1/2006]

- **Portman Voted For Conference Report on Gramm-Leach-Bliley, Opponents Predicted Law “Could Lead To An Economic Crisis Down The Road.”** In 1999, Portman voted in favor of legislation “that opens the door for a new era on Wall Street in which commercial banks, securities houses and insurers will find it easier and cheaper to enter one another’s businesses... The opponents of the measure gloomily predicted that by unshackling banks and enabling them to move more freely into new kinds of financial activities, the new law could lead to an economic crisis down the road when the marketplace is no longer growing briskly.” [Vote 570, [11/04/99](#); [New York Times](#), [11/5/99](#)]

Patton, Boggs & Blow Represented The Republic Of Haiti While Portman Worked There. The Republic of Haiti was a foreign principal of Patton, Boggs & Blow during Portman’s tenure with the firm. According to a supplemental statement filed by Patton, Boggs & Blow with the US Department of Justice in December of 1985, the firm provided both political and non-political services to the Republic of Haiti. Patton, Boggs’ representation of Haiti included, “contact with Haiti’s Ambassador to the United States and other Embassy officials; travel to Haiti and meetings there with the President, government ministers, private sector representatives, and the United States Ambassador to Haiti.” In addition, Patton, Boggs reported meeting with dozens of members of Congress and congressional staffer members on behalf of Haiti. [US Department of Justice, Patton, Boggs & Blow Supplemental Statement, [12/1/85](#)]

- **Portman Listed The Republic Of Haiti As A Client On His Foreign Agent Registration Form.** Portman listed the Republic of Haiti as a foreign principal of Patton, Boggs & Blow on the short-form registration statement he filed with the US Department of Justice. [US Department of Justice, Portman Short-Form Registration Statement, 6/26/85]
- **Patton, Boggs & Blow Reported Meeting With President Duvalier.** According to a supplemental statement filed with the US Department of Justice in December of 1985, Patton, Boggs & Blow reported “meetings [in Haiti] with the President,” referring to President Jean-Claude Duvalier, among the services provided to the Republic of Haiti in the second half of 1985. [US Department of Justice, Patton, Boggs & Blow Supplemental Statement, [12/1/85](#)]

- **Haitian Dictator Duvalier Ruled Through “Fear And Corruption.”** Haitian “President-for-Life” Jean-Claude Duvalier inherited the presidency from his father, brutal dictator Francois Duvalier, in 1971, making Haiti the Western Hemisphere’s “only remaining hereditary dictatorship.” Despite promises to enact human rights reforms, Duvalier continued to use his father’s private army, the Tonton Macoutes, to keep the citizenry in line. Like his father, Duvalier ruled through “fear and corruption,” and strictly forbid any criticism of his government. [AP, 1/31/86; New York Times, 8/27/85; Los Angeles Times, 12/15/85]

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