



*Tuesday, October 18, 2011*

## **RSC Update: Free Trade & More Jobs...But Still No Budget from the Senate**

### **From the Chairman**

Our economy received some needed good news last week after President Obama finally sent the Free Trade Agreements with [Colombia](#), [Panama](#), and [South Korea](#) to Congress for approval. Both the House and Senate swiftly voted in favor of all three agreements, which nonpartisan experts predict will result in the creation of 250,000 new jobs here in the U.S. without costing taxpayers a dime.

These agreements will level the playing field for American exports in these three countries, boost demand for American goods, and lead to \$13 billion in new sales opportunities that will help us stay competitive in the global economy. It's unfortunate that Democrats delayed these job-creating agreements for so many years, but passing them is a big win for our economy and for free enterprise – which is still the best route to prosperity ever devised.

Tearing down barriers to job creation (in this case, foreign tariffs that increase the cost of American-made products) will give American businesses better opportunities to compete and succeed. Let's not forget, though, the success of our economy also rests on Washington's ability to end its addiction to debt and deficit spending. Senate Democrats could start by simply passing a budget – [something they haven't done in 902 days](#).

God Bless,

Congressman Jim Jordan  
Chairman, Republican Study Committee

**RSC Media Activity – RSC members work hard to ensure that the conservative viewpoint is well-represented in all corners of the media. Visit our [Media Center](#) for more.**

- Rep. Renee Ellmers (NC-02): [Innovators of Tomorrow Need the Freedom to Pursue Dreams](#); The Hill, October 11.
- Rep. Kenny Marchant (TX-24): [Trade Deals Should Be on a Fast Track to Passage](#); The Star-Telegram, October 11.
- Rep. Dan Webster (FL-08): [Confidence and Cooperation Needed for Jobs Plan to Work](#); The Orlando Sentinel, October 12.
- Rep. Sandy Adams (FL-24): [Fix Federal Spending Addiction with a Balanced Budget Mandate](#); The Daytona Beach News-Journal, October 12.

- Rep. Scott Garrett (NJ-05): [Education Policy Is a Local Issue](#); The Hill, October 13.
- Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02): [Military Careers Must Remain Viable](#); Politico, October 13.
- Rep. David McKinley (WV-01): [Congress Should Vote to Protect Renewable Coal Ash](#); The Hill, October 14.

**RSC Member Activity – RSC members make it a priority to introduce productive, conservative solutions for America’s future.**

- Rep. Scott Garrett (NJ-05) introduced [H.R. 3176](#), the *Local Education Authority Returns Now (LEARN) Act*, which would return educational sovereignty back to the states by giving them the option to opt out of receiving federal money.
- Six RSC members, Reps. Trent Franks (AZ-02), Rob Bishop (UT-01), Jeff Flake (AZ-06), Paul Gosar (AZ-01), David Schweikert (AZ-05), and Ben Quayle (AZ-03), and Senators John McCain (AZ), Orrin Hatch (UT), and Mike Lee (UT) introduced [H.R. 3155](#), the *Northern Arizona Mining Continuity Act*, which would stop the U.S. Department of the Interior from banning mining in a vast area of Arizona, and killing jobs in the uranium mining industry.
- Rep. Reid Ribble (WI-08) joined forces with Rep. John Carter (TX-31) to push [H.R. 2898](#), the *Regulation Moratorium and Jobs Preservation Act*, which would put an immediate halt to new job-killing federal red tape.

**House Floor Activity – The following key legislation came through the House of Representatives recently.**

- On Wednesday, the House passed free trade agreements with Colombia ([H.R. 3078](#)), Panama ([H.R. 3079](#)), and South Korea ([H.R. 3080](#)) and the [Senate amendment to H.R. 2832](#), to extend the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).
- On Thursday, the House passed [H.R. 358](#), the *Protect Life Act*, and [H.R. 2250](#), the *EPA Regulatory Relief Act*.
- On Friday, the House passed [H.R. 2273](#), the *Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act*.

**Outlook – A quick look at what’s on the horizon.**

- The House is not in session this week.

**RSC Reports**

- Each week the House is in session, the RSC Budget and Spending Taskforce compiles a [weekly report](#) on the latest budget and spending news. Additionally, the [RSC Money Monitor](#) tracks how bills passed by the House affect authorizations, mandatory spending, and federal government revenue.

**House Republican Study Committee  
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