

Talking Points – National Economy

- No corner of the nation is immune to this national economic crisis, brought about by the failed economic policies of George Bush, and greed and irresponsibility on Wall Street.
- This is a national economic crisis, and true economic recovery requires Congressional action. As Washington's governor, Chris Gregoire cannot vote on federal legislation or tell members of Congress how to vote.
- If she could vote, her economic recovery package would be based on the following.
 - Helping Main Street, not just Wall Street – Unlike Republican Dino Rossi, Gov. Gregoire believes economic recovery should be driven from the ground up.
 - Preventing Golden Parachutes – Tax payer dollars should not be used to give CEOs multi-million dollar retirement packages as they go out the door.
 - Ensuring Reasonable Oversight – Gov. Gregoire supports common-sense, reasonable oversight in our economy to prevent abuse.
- Gov. Gregoire was raised by a single, working mother, and is doing what she can to protect Washingtonians. She saw this economic crisis brewing and has fought to protect working families and remain fiscally responsible.
- Gov. Gregoire has fought for affordable housing.
 - Gov. Gregoire prosecuted Countywide for predatory lending to minority communities.
 - She directed \$170 million to support affordable housing and help families in need stay in their homes.
- Gov. Gregoire understands that economic strength and prosperity does not “trickle down” – it comes from the bottom up.
 - She's created nearly 250,000 new jobs.
 - She helped small businesses grow with nearly \$900 million in tax incentives.
 - She capped property taxes at 1 percent and did not raise the B&O or sales tax.
- Gov. Gregoire is fiscally responsible
 - She inherited a \$2.2 billion deficit from Republican Dino Rossi but balanced the budget.
 - She led the fight to create the Rainy Day Fund and a budget surplus. Today, the state has more than \$525 million in the bank.
 - In light of the national economic crisis, she has cut state spending by nearly \$300 million.