## **MILLIONS LEFT BEHIND:**

While the wealthiest few Americans have prospered under the Bush economy, Republican policies have failed middle class families.

## By the Numbers: Minimum Wage\*

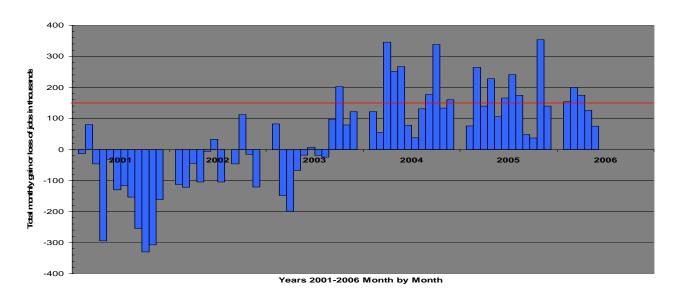
- Last time the minimum wage was increased: 1997
- The minimum wage is at its lowest level in: 50 years
- What the minimum wage would currently be if it had kept pace with inflation: \$9.05 (01/06)
  - How long a minimum wage earner must work to afford a tank of gas: One Entire Day
    - Percentage of House Democrats who have signed the Barrow Discharge Petition to increase the minimum wage: 94%
  - Number of times House Republicans have addressed the minimum wage this Congress: 0

\*Democrats successfully offered an amendment to the FY07 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill (6/13/06) to increase the minimum wage setting up the first vote in a decade on the House Floor.

## Republican Economic Policies: Failing the Middle Class

- The Bush Administration is the Administration with the greatest average decline in household income.
  - Under President Bush, the real median household income is down \$1,669.
- Under the GOP's latest misguided tax bill, a family making \$40,000 to \$50,000 would receive a \$46 tax cut compared to \$42,000 for people making more than \$1 million.

## The Bush Economy: Slowest Job Growth Since the Great Depression



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Note: Red Line indicates how many months have produced job gains of 150,000 jobs or more, the minimum number economists say is needed to keep pace with population growth. Since 2001, there have only been 16 months with job gains of more than 150,000. [NTY, 6/2/06]

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