

CONGRESSMAN XAVIER BECERRA
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

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Xavier Becerra
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AN UPDATE FROM CONGRESSMAN XAVIER BECERRA

CALIFORNIA'S 31ST DISTRICT • SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2012 • BECERRA.HOUSE.GOV

Congressman Xavier Becerra

REPRESENTING CALIFORNIA'S 31ST DISTRICT
AND SERVING AS VICE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS



The Path Forward

America's best days have come when we have pulled together to forge through whatever the crisis. During those 'all-hands-on-deck' moments, Americans of all stripes have always stepped up and responded to the challenge. Today is one of those moments.

We're still recovering from the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, which was in large part caused by years of selfish deregulation and lax oversight of unscrupulous Wall Street banks. Don't blame senior citizens who rely on Social Security or working families who are paying their mortgage and trying to send their sons and daughters to college.

I will continue working hard in the halls of Congress to ensure that we create middle class jobs and put the American economy back on track, keep the promise of Medicare for our seniors and strengthen Social Security for millions of retirees and beneficiaries.

Sincerely,
Xavier

XAVIER BECERRA
Member of Congress

“ AMERICA'S BEST DAYS HAVE
COME WHEN WE PULL TOGETHER
TO FORGE THROUGH WHATEVER
THE CRISIS... TODAY IS ONE OF
THOSE MOMENTS. ”

— CONGRESSMAN
XAVIER BECERRA



Rep. Becerra meets with workers to discuss jobs in Los Angeles, CA. March 26, 2011.

Si desea esta información en español, por favor llame al (213) 483-1425.

**BECERRA.HOUSE.GOV:
CONNECT WITH YOUR CONGRESSMAN**

It's my job to stay connected with you, in person and online, as your representative in Congress. To learn the latest from D.C., find out how I voted on a particular issue, or plan a trip to the United States Capitol, you can do it on my website:

Becerra.House.Gov

YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW
ME ON THESE SOCIAL
MEDIA SITES



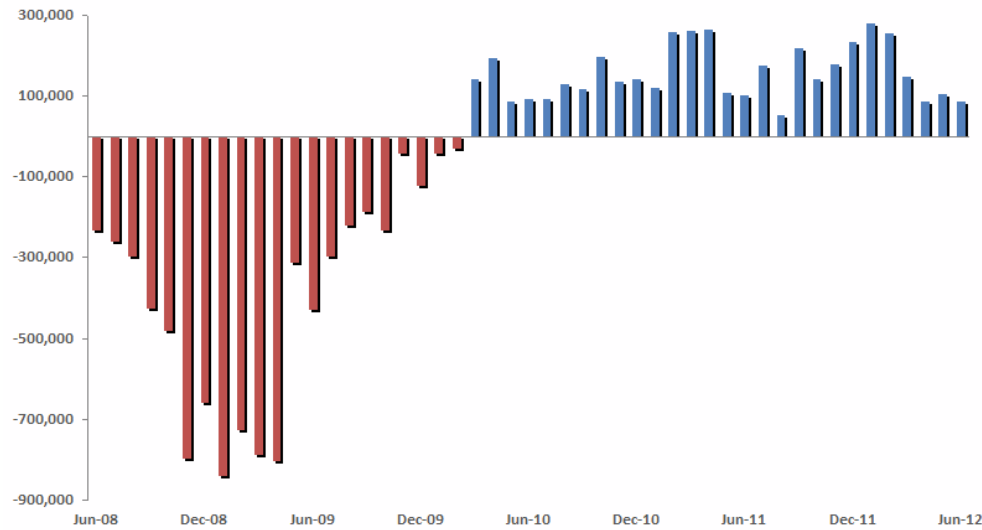
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Private Sector Payroll Employment
Monthly change, seasonally adjusted



4.4 MILLION NEW PRIVATE SECTOR JOBS

The Wall Street banking crisis of 2008 drove our economy into the deepest economic black hole since the Great Depression. But, it was the middle class that took it on the chin. Over 8 million Americans lost their jobs through no fault of their own. Today, after several hard fought years to regain our footing, the private sector working with our government has created 4.4 million new jobs in the last 28 consecutive months.

U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. June 1, 2012.

WORKING TO REBUILD AMERICA'S MIDDLE CLASS

We are only halfway through the calendar year but the Republicans leadership in Congress has decided that their legislative work schedule is all but over — scheduling under 30 more days of voting. In my opinion, there hasn't been enough progress for Congress to call it quits. There's still time to pass President Obama's American Jobs Act, which economists say would create an additional 1 million jobs (Moody's Analytics, September 9, 2011). With so many jobs on the line, the stakes are too high for this Congress to run out the clock. We should be working overtime to rebuild America's middle class.

THE DREAM LIVES ON

One of the proudest moments of my career happened in 2010, when the Democratic-led House passed the DREAM Act. Although a clear majority of U.S. Senators (55 out of 100) also voted for the bill, obstructionists used procedural maneuvers to deny its passage and kill it. But last month, in the face of Congressional gridlock, President Obama used his executive authority to provide temporary relief for young DREAMers in our communities who are in school or our military. I applaud the President for taking action where Congress has failed to do so, but there's more work to be done to fix our broken immigration system.

As of June 15, 2012, young people who meet specific requirements will not be deported from the U.S. and will be eligible for work authorization. However, the government will not accept applications until after August 15, 2012 when it publishes an official application procedure. Until then, if you think you qualify, then a warning to you: DO NOT give anyone any money or let anyone tell you that they can apply for this relief for you. To find out if you or someone whom you know qualify for this relief, please contact my office at (213) 483-1425.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

With more than 30 years of combined experience, my casework staff is ready to help you cut through the red tape and secure the benefits and services paid for by our tax dollars. To learn more, visit the "Helping You" section of my website Becerra.House.Gov or call the office at (213) 483-1425.



KEEPING COLLEGE AFFORDABLE

Students should graduate from college dreaming about what their future holds and not about more debt. In 2007, the Democratic-led Congress enacted legislation that cut the interest rate on need-based student loans in half — to 3.4 percent — over five years. This June, Congress extended that policy for another year, blocking the rate hike for over 7 million students, including 570,000 in California alone.

Local students participate in a roundtable discussion on college affordability and student loans hosted by Rep. Becerra & House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi at Occidental College. May 23, 2012.

AND THE 2012 STUDENT ART COMPETITION WINNER IS...

Natasha Carovska, a senior at John Marshall High School. In June, Natasha and her family visited Washington, D.C. to see her artwork hanging in the United States Capitol. See this year's artwork and learn more about the Student Art Competition by visiting my website Becerra.House.Gov.



Rep. Becerra, left, with 2012 Art Competition winner Natasha Carovska, center, and her father Ljupco Carovski, right. June 20, 2012.