



A1P: AT A GLANCE

Washington is Broken and Only a Strong Congress Can Fix It

- The Founders made Congress the “First Branch” of the federal government – the most powerful *and* most accountable.
- Congress today avoids its responsibility, ceding legislative power to the Executive Branch, and the American people are suffering for it – through overreach, unaccountability, political dysfunction, and public distrust.
- The Constitution still gives Congress all its powers; it’s up to Congress to step up and start using them again. That’s what A1P was formed to do.

A1P is Working to Make Congress Live Up to Its Responsibilities

- When Congress is in charge of making the law, the American people are in charge of Washington. That was the Founders’ vision, and that system works for the American people.
- But all that hard work and accountability are inconvenient for the politicians.
- So they have upended the system, making Congress the back-seat drivers of our government. Congress complains and criticizes, but we don’t actually take the wheel and the responsibility.
- A1P will develop solutions to re-constitutionalize Washington and to force Congress to both do its job and accept the political consequences.

A1P will Focus on Four Key Priorities

- **Reclaiming Congress’s power of the purse:** fundamental reform of the budget process to end “all or nothing” bills; end accounting gimmicks; end “self-funding” agencies; make the budget mean what it says.
- **Reforming legislative “cliffs”:** end the risk of government shutdowns and defaults and end Congress’s habit of voting on thousand-page bills no one has read, without debate or amendment.
- **Reclaiming congressional authority over regulations and regulators:** require congressional authorization of total regulatory costs and new major rules.
- **Reforming executive discretion:** rein in the regulatory state, so it works for the American people and not the other way around.

*“The Constitution promises Americans a government of, by, and for the people.
A1P will force Congress to make good on that promise again.”*

