



INNOVATION & JOBS

AMERICA COMPETES ACT OF 2007 (or AMERICA CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO MEANINGFULLY PROMOTE EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY, EDUCATION, AND SCIENCE ACT), legislation with the overall goal of increasing federal investment in scientific research to improve U.S. economic competitiveness. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-69](#))*

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT, a comprehensive energy package which increased Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for cars and light trucks to 35 miles per gallon by the year 2020, the first statutory change in CAFE standards in 32 years. The bill also made an historic commitment to American homegrown biofuels. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-140](#))*

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND STIMULUS PACKAGE of 2008, which delivered \$600 Recovery Rebates to 130 million American middle class families to provide relief and stimulate the economy during a difficult economic period. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-185](#))*

ENERGY IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION ACT, legislation that extended and expanded tax incentives for renewable electricity, energy and fuel from America's heartland, as well as for plug-in hybrid cars and energy-efficient homes, buildings and appliances. These incentives were critical to creating and preserving more than 500,000 good-paying clean energy American jobs in the wind and solar industries alone. This bill was enacted as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-343](#))*

EDUCATION

COLLEGE COST REDUCTION AND ACCESS ACT, which made college more affordable by reducing the subsidies that the government pays private lenders for offering student loans and redirecting that money to students through a substantially expanded Pell Grant program. The bill also cut interest rates on federally subsidized student loans in half over four years, to 3.4 percent. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-84](#))*

HEAD START REAUTHORIZATION, the first reform and expansion of Head Start in ten years. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-134](#))*

FAIRNESS

FAIR MINIMUM WAGE ACT, which increased the federally guaranteed minimum wage for the first time in a decade – raising it to \$7.25 in three 70 cent increments by 2009. It was included in H.R. 2206, an emergency supplemental appropriations bill addressing Hurricane Katrina recovery, U.S. troops and veterans and Iraq accountability. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-28](#))*

HONEST LEADERSHIP AND OPEN GOVERNMENT ACT, landmark lobbying and ethics reform legislation that includes such provisions as prohibiting Members of Congress and their staff from accepting gifts from lobbyists, requiring Members of Congress to disclose how much campaign cash lobbyists raise on their behalf and what earmarks the Member of Congress has requested. Importantly, it also creates an outside, independent ethics panel. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-81](#))*

PAUL WELLSTONE AND PETE DOMINICI MENTAL HEALTH PARITY AND ADDICTION EQUITY ACT, a bill designed to end coverage discrimination against patients seeking treatment for mental illnesses. Enacted as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-343](#))*

VETERANS & NATIONAL SECURITY

H.R. 1, ENACTING THE HOMELAND SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BIPARTISAN 9/11 COMMISSION, advancing key steps to better protect the homeland. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-53](#))*

ENACTED THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN VETERANS' HEALTH CARE IN THE 77-YEAR HISTORY OF THE VA *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-161](#))*

POST 9/11 VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (THE NEW GI BILL), a bill providing free college education to veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It was included in a 2008 supplemental appropriations package. *(Signed into Law – [PL 110-252](#))*