

Labor Day Talking Points and Messaging

Topline messages:

- The Democratic Party believes that when workers are strong, America is strong. Democrats will make it easier for workers, public and private, to exercise their right to organize and join unions.
- Many of us will be celebrating Labor Day at barbecues and family events. We should remember that Labor Day is truly a celebration of workers and working families, who are the backbone of our nation. We have a responsibility to pursue pro-worker policies that will strengthen families. Hillary Clinton has plans to improve the lives of workers and their families, Donald Trump does not.
- Hillary Clinton and Democrats have a plan to help working families: raise the minimum wage, end pay discrimination based on gender, guarantee paid family leave, protect and strengthen social security, and support workers' rights to unionize and collectively bargain for better benefits and wages.
- Under the plans Trump has proposed, the economy would lose nearly 3.5 million jobs, according to an independent analysis by a former economic advisor to John McCain.
- Trump does not stand for working families. Trump has made a career of stiffing small businesses and ripping off working people. (Atlantic City, Trump U). Trump's running-mate supported companies that offshore jobs in his own state. Trump is out only for himself.
- The history of the labor movement shows us: When we work together, we can win together and make change. Together, we can create an economy that works for everyone, not just those at the top.

Facts about Labor Day:

- Labor Day is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor
- The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor
- Labor Day was declared a federal holiday by Congress in 1894. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor
- 16.4 million wage and salary workers in America are represented by a labor union. That's 11.1% of all wage and salary workers in the country. SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Workers in unions had median usual weekly earnings of \$980 in 2015, compared to \$776 for non-union workers. SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics
- In the late 1800s, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven day weeks to eke out a basic living. Children as young as 5-6 years old worked in factories and mines. It wasn't until 1916 that the 8-hour day was firmly established. After earlier failed attempts,

Congress finally passed the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1938, which among other things, regulated child labor and set standards for minimum wage and overtime pay.

HFA Talking Points on the Economy (Source: HFA):

- Hillary Clinton is committed to building a stronger and fairer economy, where everyone can contribute to its growth and where everyone can get ahead.
- Hillary has a five-point plan to build an economy that works for everyone not just those at the top that makes corporations and the wealthiest pay their fair share so that we can invest in more good-paying jobs and in our country's working families.
- Hillary has a plan to create good-paying jobs within her first 100 days as president, through investing in infrastructure and manufacturing and helping small businesses grow and hire.
- Donald Trump's plan for the economy is the opposite. He would give trillions in tax cuts to big corporations, millionaires and Wall Street money managers at the expense of working families.
- Trump's plans will give many millionaires and billionaires a backdoor tax cut the Trump Loophole which would let them to pay less than half the current tax rate on a significant portion of their income.
- Trump wants to eliminate the Estate Tax, which would do nothing for 99.8 percent of Americans. And if you believe he's as wealthy as he says he is—which we don't know because he won't release his tax returns—the Trump family alone could pocket \$4 billion.
- Clinton's plans to create good-paying jobs stand in stark contrast to Donald Trump's economic policies that would cost millions of jobs and devastate the economy.
- Under the plans Trump has proposed, according to an independent analysis by a former economic advisor to John McCain, the economy would lose nearly 3.5 million jobs and the nation would plunge into a "lengthy recession."
- By contrast, under Hillary's plans, the economy would create more than 10 million new jobs across the country in just her first term.
- The choice this election is clear. Hillary Clinton has the experience and steadiness to be a Commander-in-Chief ready on day one. She has laid out real plans to keep our country safe and our economy growing and is prepared to address the complex challenges we face today. Donald Trump has shown that he is temperamentally unfit and unqualified to be president. His dangerous ideas and reckless behavior could risk getting us into a war or crashing the economy. And by doubling down on tax cuts for billionaires like himself, he's shown us what he really values – himself.

As president, Hillary will (Source: HFA):

- Invest in good-paying jobs. In her first 100 days as president, Hillary will work with both parties to make bold investments in [infrastructure](#), [manufacturing](#), research and technology, [clean energy](#), and [small businesses](#). This will create millions of good-paying jobs, including for labor and other hard-working Americans across the country. Hillary's plan would make the largest investment in good-paying jobs since World War II.
- Restore collective bargaining rights for unions and defend against partisan attacks on workers' rights. Hillary was an original co-sponsor of the Employee Free Choice Act.

Hillary will fight to strengthen the labor movement and to protect worker bargaining power. She will continue to stand up against attacks on collective bargaining and work to strengthen workers' voices.

- Prevent countries like China from abusing global trade rules, and reject trade agreements, like the TPP, that don't meet high standards. Hillary will strengthen American trade enforcement so we stand up to foreign countries that aren't playing by the rules—like China is doing right now with [steel](#), and fight for American workers. She will say no to trade deals, like the Trans-Pacific Partnership, that do not meet her [high standard](#) of raising wages, creating good-paying jobs, and enhancing our national security.
- Raise the minimum wage and strengthen overtime rules. Hillary will work to raise the federal minimum wage to \$12, and support state and local efforts to go even higher—including the “Fight for \$15.” She also supports the Obama administration's expansion of overtime rules to millions more workers.
- Invest in high-quality training, apprenticeships, and skill-building for workers. Read the fact sheet [here](#).
- Encourage companies to invest in workers. Hillary will reward companies that [share profits](#) and invest in their workers. She will crack down on companies that move profits overseas to avoid paying U.S. taxes and she will make companies that export jobs give back the tax breaks they've received in America.
- Protect workers from exploitation, including employer misclassification, wage theft, and other forms of exploitation.
- Ensure policies meet the challenges families face in the 21st century economy. Hillary will [fight for equal pay](#) for women and [guarantee paid leave](#), two changes that are long overdue. And she will provide relief from the rising costs of necessities like [child care](#) and housing.
- Protect retirement security. After working hard for decades, Americans deserve a secure and comfortable retirement. Hillary will fight to protect retirement security, [enhance—not privatize—Social Security](#), and push back against any efforts to undermine retirement benefits.

Four Things you Need to Know about Donald Trump's Economic Plan (Source: HFA):

1. His “new” ideas are anything but.
 - Trump's “new” plan is the same-old trickle-down economics he's been peddling since the beginning of the campaign.
 - He still gives massive breaks to corporations, as well as billionaires and millionaires like himself.
 - He still wants to roll back the tough regulations we placed on Wall Street after the 2008 crash and get rid of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau—the new agency that protects Americans from unfair and deceptive financial practices.
 - And he's still not offering any ideas to rebuild our infrastructure other than forcing Mexico to build a giant wall along our border.
2. His lies are getting tired, too.
 - He said Hillary Clinton wants to raise taxes on the middle class. [She doesn't](#).
 - He said he'll eliminate a major special-interest loophole, the carried interest deduction, that benefits hedge funders and Wall Streeters. Actually, he's making the loophole [much, much worse](#).

- He claimed government unemployment statistics are “a hoax.” That one got [four Pinocchios](#).
 - He said the Affordable Care Act threatens 2 million American jobs. [That was debunked years ago](#).
 - He said 93 million Americans are outside the labor force. That number is [preposterously misleading](#).
 - He says Hillary’s economic plans would kill jobs. [Actually](#), economic analysts say the economy would create 10.4 million jobs under her plan. And they also say Trump’s plan would kill nearly 3.5 million jobs—something Trump didn’t mention.
3. He did have one new idea—and it’s a bad one.
- Trump proposed a child care tax deduction for those at the top—a surprising twist when you consider that just months ago he was claiming that child care is “not an expensive thing” because you just “need some blocks, and you need some swings.”
 - But look under the hood, and you’ll find that Trump’s so-called “plan” is really just another tax break for wealthy people like him. Liberal and conservative experts have said it would provide absolutely no relief to the families that need it most.
 - Child care costs are way too high. But providing more tax breaks to those at the top is not what working families need. (And that’s why Hillary will ensure that no family pays more than 10 percent of their income for child care by increasing the federal government’s investment in child care and providing tax relief to working families.)
4. If your last name is Trump—and/or you’ve got millions in the bank—this plan is for you.
- Trump says no one will gain more from his economic proposals than low- and middle-income Americans.
 - But in fact, his across-the-board tax cut—and his proposed 15 percent tax rate for corporations—is a drastic cut that disproportionately benefits the wealthiest Americans and largest corporations. And his proposal to eliminate the estate tax only benefits the super-wealthy with estates of more than roughly \$11 million. It could save his own family \$4 billion (assuming, of course, he is as wealthy as he claims he is—a big assumption).
 - In other words, Trump and his family will do just fine under his plan. The rest of us are out of luck—and left holding the bag when these reckless proposals tank the economy and destroy American jobs.