

Roger A. Harman

September 5, 2005

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Senator Joseph Biden
United States Senate
SR-201
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Ted Stevens
United States Senate
SH-522
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Patty Murray
United States Senate
SR-173
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Hillary Clinton
United States Senate
SR-476
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
SH-717
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Norm Dicks
U.S. House of Representatives
2467 RHOB
Washington, D.C. 20510-4706

Dear Fellow Americans,

Attached is a humble contribution of a 16-Point Plan. This is rough skeleton of a plan, for addressing **the Hurricane Katrina Disaster** positively. This plan is a way to help the victims, help the affected region, help the nation and help the world see the power of democracy in action. This is the way to the power of personal ownership and accountability, the power of American patriots dedicated to the overall good above their own personal gain or aggrandizement.

What I offer is pragmatic, aggressive and likely effective in ways far reaching into the future. What I offer is probably not politically correct and will raise the ire and scratching of the "hen party extremist" on both sides of the aisle. I have sent this to you because I believe you, among others in a very small group, in my opinion, that have the spirit of the founding fathers, the commitment to integrity, ethics and personal ideals over politics and the experience, skill sets and broad base of supporters to make this happen. I see you in a room together sharing ideas for a better future and a better response in civilized intelligent discourse, something that those of us working in America to pay your and the way of others think seldom happens. I send this too you because our country needs you and I personally believe in you. Both Senator Stevens and Senator Murray know my commitment to doing what is right. I pray you agree with the concept of what I propose and that you, together, will move forward to heal wounds across divides, in the streets and in the pocket books of Americans.

God bless you and good luck.

Roger A. Harman
Citizen

AMERICANS FOR AMERICANS: A REASONABLE RESPONSE A 16-Point Program

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“Every catastrophe is an opportunity to provide a quality response with the highest level of character, integrity and example for the good of all. Be competent, on-time, in budget with integrity, ethics and a superior desire to succeed.” R. Harman

MISSION: To respond positively in a financially prudent manner for the recovery and future benefit of the victims, the region, the economy and the fabric of America torn by Hurricane Katrina.

SCOPE: Inventory and define the current potential workforce and the future economic needs of individuals and the region with a focus on jobs, affordable financing from scarce funds availability. Government, industry, unions and individuals must work together to execute a plan that will cure current economic problems at the individual, tax generation, regional and national economic levels. Offer a mixed solution that crosses political party, labor-management and racial-cultural-age-physician conditions, economic conditions and cultural lines utilizing existing in-place financial, human, material and locational resources available for plan execution.

FUNCTIONS:

1. Identify vacant and under utilized military bases with housing, Indian reservation with vacant housing, schools and universities with vacant housing for the assignment of temporary learning and housing needs for victims of Hurricane Katrina.
2. Focus on area controllable former military bases or excess capacity in military bases, large recreational camps and other sites for relocation and temporary housing centers. The various centers need to be broad class, vertical or horizontal, by occupation offering training from basic skills to journey skills along with office skills and computer skills at each.
3. Assign the National Guard the responsibility for maintaining security and a proper environment for teachers, students, families and children in the temporary re-location sites.
4. Review Labor force 2000 published by the U.S. Department of Labor and updated for the needed jobs in America for the next decade.
5. Review and inventory all job skills needed and the quantity needed for the next decade for reconstruction efforts including administration.
6. Operate temporary housing-relocation centers along the developed Israeli kibbutz concept of shared child care and education, security and education. For example, live communal at the community level albeit familial in the personal residences. Have share facilities of 1-4, like dormitories for single persons mixing aged, youth and medically dependent for mutual help.
7. Enlist a governing council made up of Union educators, corporate educators, and government representatives from the federal, state and regional levels and non-profit organizations such as Habitat International, the Red Cross, religious groups and secular non-profits. Convene the group with a mandate like those faced with writing a constitution in Iraq but on a tighter time schedule for an amoral, non-political economic solution.
8. Increase National Guard, Coast Guard and Homeland Security job training albeit with a guaranty of no relocation outside of the United States.

9. Similar to the Israeli kibbutz, bring in Israeli advisors if necessary, implement a program of job-training, housing and community life focused on economic skill sets (computer software uses for physically impaired, building trades for entry level workers and higher-skill training like electrician, masonry, hydraulics, office skills etc for the experienced and educated to advance their skill sets.
10. Have on-the-job-training (OJT) programs for building and remodeling housing at the centers or building houses using Habitat International (Americans can donate funds to Habitat International earmarked for Hurricane Katrina response), building roads, re-building old plumbing, electrical and sewage systems (needed trades) as well as installing new systems, etc.

CAVEAT: In no case allow lower training standards. Push for excellence, break those early who do not want to learn or cannot learn, those seeking pay over performance and those who cannot teach effectively and re-assign them to a center that matches their needs. **DO NOT LOWER PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION, PUSH FOR TEACHERS AND PROGRAMS EFFECTIVE ENOUGH TO MEET THOSE STANDARDS. I SUGGEST WE PUT GENERAL TOMMY FRANKS OR SIMILAR EXPERIENCED INDIVIDUAL IN CHARGE.**

11. Use supplemental appropriates to finance relocation to centers.
12. Use U.S. DOL monies, experience and programs developed and working in Vocational Rehabilitation, Job Corps and Employments Security to design and implement center training.
13. Provide SBA guaranteed micro-loans (similar to the successful program in India, bring in Indian experts) for successful graduates to get tools, tools, truck and initial inventory, open a store, what they need to start and business but with the caveat that, depending on the size, they must attend monthly "business education meetings" or return their tools, trucks, space or other resources, their loan is forgiven but assumable by another in-need in the future whether Hurricane Katrina victim or not.
14. Provide block grants from the Unemployment Insurance fund, two years of benefits, all at once or according to approved budget needs (a program tested and successful in creating jobs, economy and self-sufficiency already proven successful with the Department of Labor Structure.
15. Institute a government public relations program for "buy-American" and apply pressure on foreign competition via dumping. Lack of overhead for safety and security and other factors within the International Trade Agreements driving Americans to buy American made products and services along withy products and services from the region. Provide for a 5-10% of purchases from the region for the next 10-years tax deduction for Americans who purchase such goods from disaster wrecked counties and parishes.
16. Add a port of entry "security surtax", similar to that done in airports, for every shipment of goods entering the United States (a percentage of value of based on volume, whichever is greater) to pay for port security (operations, levees and systems) in the Hurricane Katrina region first then nationally and for maintenance of port conditions and security in partnership with the states, like the federal housing programs. Currently we have delegated our security to overseas shippers due to funding requirements, not good enough, here as an opportunity to address that issue while doing well for this proposed program, the region and the nation.

Use this opportunity to show the undeveloped world how leadership and proper investment of existing resources can raise up the economic status of a region, a people of individuals. We are dealing with a third-world economic situation, this can become a model for the world if we can but separate ourselves from politics, fund-raising and political correctness. I, as an American citizen, call on our leadership to rise to the occasion and to earn the largess in salary, benefits and perks they enjoy to set their differences aside and be civilized people doing what is right in God's eyes, however one defines God, and not the eyes of others. There is no room for obstructionists and those who would turn this into a "political hen party".

What is a hen party? For the majority of our elected officials who have never had to live at the people level scratching for their existence, a "hen-party" is where one chicken as a blood spot or red mark at it. The other chickens peck at it and get more blood on themselves. In minutes a

coup of hundreds, even thousand will be dead. Why do you think growers keep them in their own box and control and monitor the “yard time”?

I developed this in a matter of hours, I would expect a congress to write and move legion, albeit less than perfect, that can be tailored along the way in days to get relief now and to start moving Hurricane Katrina victims to housing and education centers as soon as possible as all that has transpired to date is that we have moved the problem, past and current to a new location. Let us fix the problem of the past and the future with a dynamic program now. Do your job, earn your pay. Give America a bi-partisan American plan. Give the world and example of the way a democracy can work and serve the greater whole. If you cannot do what I suggest in the form that works, I have drafted this in a matter of days, then you all, I think, will go down in history as members of a group that Montesquieu would describe as the second worst government after a tyrant, a democracy for the good of the few. The choice is yours.

I have sent this to the following for the following reasons without regard for party affiliation, conservative or liberal bents, cloning, abortion, living will, Iraq war or other divisive issues. I offer this as a people to people solution that is based on humanity first, current problem resolution (temporary) second and economic improvements third, I hope those who receive this agree.

President George W. Bush	our Commander and Chief and CEO
Senator Ted Stevens	the first Senator I worked for and learned so much from, statesman for all and learned in third-world, American Native (our third-world within our system) community environs, defense and budgetary issues
Senator Hillary Clinton	a key player in the future of America and bridge building
Senator Joseph Biden	a statesman among politicians with a respected, knowledgeable and experienced history
Senator Patty Murray	the second Senator I have worked for and my senator
Senator Maria Cantwell	my senator and, I think, a bridge to the future for women and technology
Representative Norm Dicks	a statesman among politicians with a respected, knowledgeable and experienced history plus in-depth knowledge of military bases

May God bless us with enough... May our founding fathers smile at our efforts and programs, may all who stand forward do so knowing that whether they have a future political career or not, they did right for themselves, their country, their constituency, the victims of Hurricane Katrina for generations to come, for our economy and for our world image. Be Americans, have what it takes to stand as a profile in courage even if it means to go against your own party, your own political career. My Catholic church was politically correct and is besmirched by the Holocaust and Hitler's reign. Read Winston Churchill, the world's greatest failure before he became prime minister and find in yourself the courage and drive to do what is right. Please, give us the American leadership all of us on both sides of the aisle thought we were getting when hard working Americans voted for you.

May your conscience be your guide, may wisdom prevail and may the American in all of us manifest itself as it did when the Devil met Daniel Webster with a rigged jury. I pray that you and your colleagues are able to rise up and meet the challenge..

READER: You can check out Roger A. Harman and his credentials at <http://www.ubiconnect.com> or email him at rharman@ubiconnect.com or call him at 206-261-2726.