**ELECTION 2012**

**FACT SHEET: OREGON**

Entering office amid an economic crisis, President Obama has consistently fought for the middle class, protecting children, and education. Here is just some of what has been achieved in Oregon.

**Strengthening the middle class**

- The current tax system is NOT fair: In 2010, Oregon corporations paid $354 million in state income taxes and individuals paid nearly $5 billion — **14 times more**. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *State Government Tax Collections Summary Report: 2010*)

- The Social Security payroll tax cut instituted by President Obama is a first step to leveling the playing field — **$1,000 more in take-home pay** for a middle class family earning $50,000 a year. (Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury)

- Over the last two decades, on average the income of the **richest 20%** of families in Oregon rose by more than $40,000 while the income of the **poorest 20%** of families in Oregon remained about the same. For details, see [http://bit.ly/jyj6H](http://bit.ly/jyj6H). (Source: *Pulling Apart: A State by State Analysis of Income Trends*, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities and the Economic Policy Institute, 2008)

**Making college affordable**

- President Obama has preserved **Pell grants** for more than **100,000 students** in Oregon. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- Last year alone, the American Opportunity Tax Credit introduced by President Obama helped make **college tuition** affordable for **99,000 families** in Oregon. (Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Tax Analysis)
Supporting educators, modernizing schools

- As a result of President Obama’s support for the Education Jobs Fund, signed into law in August 2010, Oregon received $120 million that helped keep teachers in the classroom, limit increases in class size, and contain layoffs of counselors, classroom aides, and other education support professionals. At its peak, the Education Jobs Fund supported nearly 1,700 education jobs throughout the state. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed into law by President Obama in February 2009, funded nearly 4,600 education jobs in Oregon. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- President Obama’s American Jobs Act, which the Republican Congress continues to block, would provide $351 million for education jobs, $253 million to modernize schools, and $71 million for community colleges in Oregon. (Source: A State by State Guide to the American Jobs Act, whitehouse.gov)

Improving health care

- In 2011, Oregon received $4.8 million for school-based health centers that provide screenings, conduct health promotion and disease prevention activities, and enable children with acute or chronic illnesses to attend school. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration)

- The Affordable Care Act has brought peace of mind to 2.2 million people in Oregon — they no longer have to worry about lifetime limits. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Health Care Law & You, healthcare.gov)

- In 2011, more than 17,000 young adults in Oregon could remain on their parents’ health plans until age 26 — and that number will grow in 2012. Before the Affordable Care Act, many college graduates and other young adults had no insurance. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Health Care Law & You, healthcare.gov)