ENTERTAINMENT

FACT SHEET: SOUTH CAROLINA

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 South Carolina.

Strengthening the middle class

- The current tax system is NOT fair: In 2010, South Carolina corporations paid $130 million in state income taxes and individuals paid $2.2 billion — 17 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 decade, on average the income of the richest 20% of families in South Carolina remained about the same while the income of the poorest 20% of families in South Carolina dropped by more than $2,200. For details, see 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 130,000 students in South Carolina. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- Last year alone, the American Opportunity Tax Credit introduced by President Obama helped make college tuition affordable for 119,000 families in South Carolina. (Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Tax Analysis)

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Supporting educators, modernizing schools

- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed into law by President Obama in February 2009, funded more than 4,000 education jobs in South Carolina. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- President Obama’s American Jobs Act, which the Republican Congress continues to block, would provide $430 million for education jobs, $381 million to modernize schools, and $71 million for community colleges in South Carolina. (Source: A State by State Guide to the American Jobs Act, whitehouse.gov)

Improving health care

- In 2011, South Carolina received $1.4 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 2.5 million people in South Carolina — 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 15,000 young adults in South Carolina 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)