

NETWORK 2021 Legislative Agenda: *New Year, New Administration, New Congress*

January 28, 2021

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Presenters



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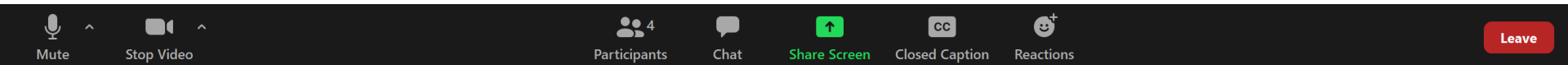


Quincy
Howard, OP



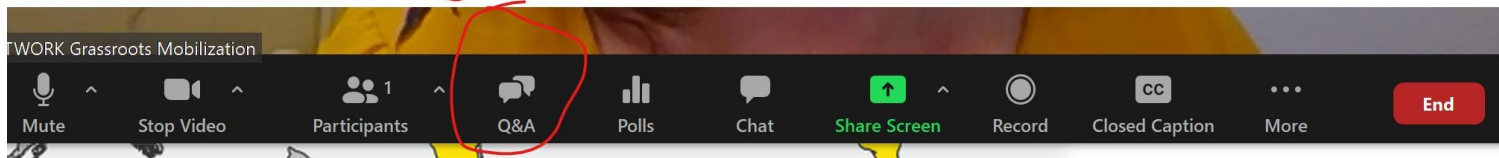
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Zoom

Type your questions in the
Q&A



Overview

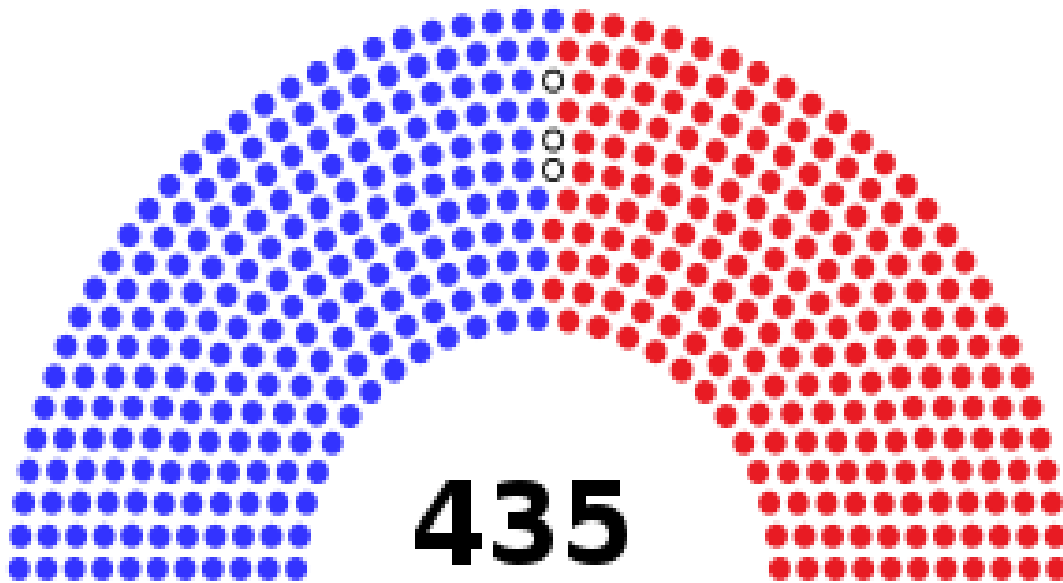
We will be discussing:

- ☀ House and Senate State of Play
- ☀ Biden-Harris Administration
- ☀ Introducing Build Anew
- ☀ First 100 Days Priorities:
 - ☀ COVID Relief
 - ☀ Democracy
 - ☀ Immigration
- ☀ All of Our Policy Areas
- ☀ What We Do Going Forward



There will be time for questions at the end. Remember to type your questions in the Q&A Box throughout the presentation!

The House of Representatives



- ☀ Democrats have the Majority with 221 members
- ☀ Republicans have 211 members
- ☀ 3 seats are still vacant/undecided



The Senate



A 50/50 Senate

- ☀️ With incredible wins in the Georgia Run Off Election, Vice President Harris is now the tie-breaking vote giving Dems the slimmest of majorities



The Presidency

**BUILD BACK
BETTER
BIDEN
HARRIS
2020**

A New Administration



The Biden-Harris team have already taken steps to repeal Trump era policies and are boldly ushering a new era of American history



Build Anew Agenda



In a world of growing economic disparity and increasing individualism, we call for federal policies that dismantle systemic racism, eliminate the wealth and income gap, improve the well-being of our communities, and allow all people to thrive — especially those most often left out: women, people of color, and people on the economic margins.

Emerging from encounter with families and communities across the United States, the **Build Anew Agenda** is a pathway to realizing our vision of a just and inclusive society.

Build Anew

Cornerstones to Build Our Country Anew

- ☀ Dismantle Systemic Racism
- ☀ Cultivate Inclusive Community
- ☀ Root Our Economy in Solidarity
- ☀ Transform Our Politics

Despite our divisions, we proclaim that all people in the United States, together, make up one single community. Pope Francis says, “Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems.”

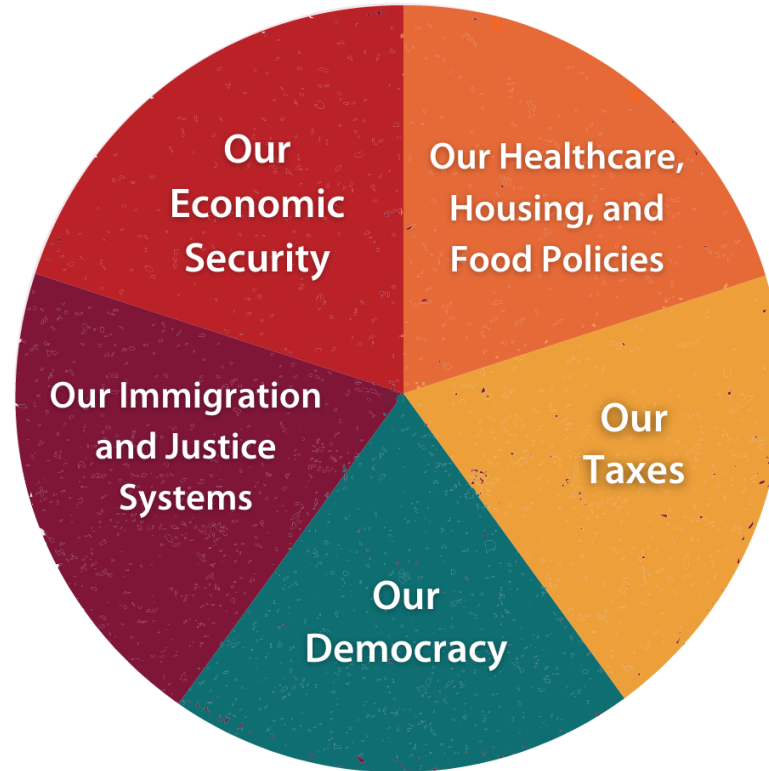
In this hope, we can, and we must, build anew!



Build Anew Agenda

Policy Areas to Build Anew

We build our country anew by prioritizing racial equity, caring for the Earth, and improving the well-being of all people and communities through legislative advocacy for:



NETWORK
ADVOCATES FOR JUSTICE, INSPIRED BY CATHOLIC SISTERS

COVID Relief

The American Rescue Plan provides \$1.9 Trillion in robust relief

- ☀️ 400 billion to combat the pandemic directly, including money to accelerate vaccine deployment and to safely reopen most schools within 100 days.
- ☀️ Dramatic increase in tax credits to help lift children, families, and workers out of poverty.
- ☀️ \$1,400 direct payments to individuals, more generous unemployment benefits, federally mandated paid leave for workers, food and housing aid, and large subsidies for child care costs.
- ☀️ An additional \$350 billion would help state and local governments bridge budget shortfalls.



COVID Relief

Racial Equity and Justice is Centered

- ☀️ Inclusive policies benefiting Black, Brown and Indigenous Communities.
- ☀️ Modeled on an FDR-style strategy to put the country in a better position than it was before the pandemic hit.
- ☀️ NETWORK seeking permanent adoption of supports in “Build Back Better” Bill.



COVID Relief

- ☀️ Timing for Bill: Unofficial Deadline for Passage is March 14
- ☀️ Likely a DEMOCRAT-Only Bill
 - ☀️ Republicans Pushing Back on Big Bill
 - ☀️ Dems likely to use process that requires simple majority (50 plus 1)
- ☀️ Process Limits What Can Be Included
 - ☀️ Proposals must change revenue or spending
 - ☀️ Proposals Can be Challenged by Opponents



Democracy

For the People Act

- ☀️ H.R.1 is now S.1!
- ☀️ Key Components
 - ✓ Clean and Fair Elections
 - ✓ Ending Gerrymandering
 - ✓ Disclose & Limit Dark Money
 - ✓ Small Donor Campaign Finance Program
 - ✓ Strong Ethics Provisions
- ☀️ Timing and Process



Democracy

- ☀️ Other bills we'll be working:
 - ✓ John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act
 - ✓ D.C. Statehood



Immigration

- ☀️ Biden Administration Immigration Bill – U.S. Citizenship Act 2021
- ☀️ Leads. Senate: Robert Menendez (NJ), House: Linda Sanchez (CA-38)
- ☀️ Key Components
 - ☀️ Pathway to Citizenship
 - ☀️ Smart Border Controls
 - ☀️ Root Causes
- ☀️ Timing and Strategy
 - ☀️ Break it up into smaller bills (reintroduce past bills)
 - ☀️ New bills – (legalization for essential workers)







Our Other Policy Priorities

- ☀️ **Economic Security**
 - ☀️ Work, Wages, Wealth
 - ☀️ Good Jobs, Livable Income, Safe and Healthy Workplaces
- ☀️ **Healthcare, Housing, and Food Policies**
 - ☀️ Food Security: (SNAP, TANF, and expanding eligibility)
 - ☀️ Healthcare: Expand ACA, Health Equity
 - ☀️ A Just Tax System: EITC, CTC, Taxing the Wealthy
 - ☀️ Safe, Affordable, and Accessible Housing for All



Our Other Policy Priorities

Justice System

-  Eliminate Barriers to Safety Net Programs
-  Justice in Policing Act
-  Restore Voting Right to people who are incarcerated and returning citizens
-  Sentencing Reform



Upcoming Opportunities in February

- ☀ Sign up for virtual in-district visits with your Senators!
[http://networklobby.org/meeting signups](http://networklobby.org/meeting-signups)
- ☀ Sign up for Lent, “Build Anew: A Justice Agenda for All of Us.”
<https://networklobby.org/lent>



Stay Connected

☀️ **Sign up for NETWORK action alerts:**
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☀️ **Invite NETWORK staff to give a presentation
to your parish or organization:**
<https://networklobby.org/inviteus>



Thank you!

For questions email:

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