

Occupy Lake County "A Better World Is Possible" (and here's Our List to make it happen) rev 2012-01-04

Note: The Lake County group has spent many hours debating this list. Once it had been winnowed down to a "Top Ten," there was still the issue of which order to list things (priorities).

While everyone agreed that Protecting the Planet was critical, we also agreed that probably nothing can be accomplished until we make Election Reform happen (and end the offensive farce of Corporate Personhood).

Ultimately we decided to keep this list fluid. We invite everyone to decide: which items are most important to you? Whatever they are, please share this list (or your own list) with your electeds. Decisions are made by those who show up, and who make their voices heard. Please: Make YOUR voice heard! Write or call your electeds today!

Restore the Bill of Rights

Overturn the Patriot Act and restore our rights.

www.OccupyLakeCounty.org

End Corporate Personhood

We demand the immediate reversal of the offensive and anti-democratic Supreme Court holding in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission, which equates the payment of money to politicians by political action committees, corporations, wealthy individuals and unions with the exercise of protected free speech. We demand that this institutional *bribery* never again be deemed protected free speech and all *direct and indirect* private payments to politicians end immediately. **Movetoamend.org**

Bank Reform

Banks borrow OUR money at .01% interest, then loan it back to us at a rate thousands of times higher. This is wrong, and it must stop. Either we nationalize the banks, or else private banks must have severe caps put on how much interest they can charge the American People for loaning us our own money.

Mortgage Reform

Wall Street created the housing bubble, gambled until the dice rolled against them, then taxpayers bailed the banks out. When the Wall-Street-Created-Bubble-Burst, existing homeowners owed more than their homes were worth. Instead of working with homeowners to re-adjust their mortgage to current value (and the bank would still make a profit), the banks are foreclosing on existing homeowners, selling the home at current market value, then the banks are reimbursed by the Fed for the difference between current value and previous inflated bubble value. In other words, **banks continue to be bailed out every day, while homeowners are tossed to the garbage heap.** Therefore, all underwater mortgages will be immediately re-financed at the amount of the house's current value.

Student Loan Reform

Banks receive virtually interest free loans from the Federal Reserve Bank and then charge upwards of 6-10% interest to our students for profit. Interest on student debts must be immediately reduced to 2% or less and repayments *deferred* for periods of unemployment.

End Perpetual War for Profit

Recall all military personnel at all non-essential bases and refocus national defense goals to address threats posed by the geopolitics of the 21st century, including terrorism and limiting the large scale deployment of military forces to those instances where Congressional approval has been granted. New laws must be enacted to counter the Military Industrial Complex's mission of perpetual war for profit.

Election Reform/ Lobby Reform

America's original republican democracy has been replaced with a corporate government of, by and for the benefit of domestic and multi-national corporations. We demand an immediate ban on all private contributions, including but not limited to promises of employment, to all politicians serving in or running for federal office, and to their staff. All private funding of political campaigns shall be replaced by the fair, equal and total public financing of all federal political campaigns, including equal time in media such as TV and radio. Also, elimination of revolving door between industries affected by legislation and those elected to legislate. Lawmakers are elected to represent *The People*.

Jobs for All Americans

Passage of a comprehensive job and job-training act like the American Jobs Act to employ our citizens in jobs that are available with specialized training. The American People must be put to work now by repairing America's crumbling infrastructure and building other needed public works projects. Only when more Americans are working and have money to spend, will the economy will thrive once again.

Healthcare for All

Medicare for all or adoption of a universal single-payer healthcare system. The broken Medicaid program will be eliminated as redundant. Affordable healthcare shall be a human right.

Protection of the Planet

The rights to clean air, water, and conservation of the planet for future generations shall no longer be infringed. New comprehensive laws and regulations must be immediately enacted to give the Environmental Protection Agency expanded powers to shut down corporations, businesses or any entities that intentionally or recklessly damage the environment, and to criminally prosecute individuals who intentionally or recklessly damage the environment.

Fair Graduated Tax Code

A complete reformation of the United States Tax Code to require ALL citizens and corporations to pay a fair share of a progressive, graduated income tax. Any corporation that does business in the United States and generates income from that business in the United States shall be fully taxed on that income regardless of corporate domicile **or they will be barred from earning profits in the United States.**