

National Black Church Initiative

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The National Black Church Initiative Condemns Republicans for Uncompromising Tax Stance

The Unemployed Need Their Checks

Washington DC – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a coalition of 34,000 churches, is outraged that Republicans are holding Congress hostage in an effort to secure Bush-era tax policies that protect the rich. During this severe economic crisis our elected officials should be supporting the Americans whose support they require to maintain their positions – not the 1% of the population whose wealth Republicans are so desperate to protect. Democratic Majority Leader Harry Reid agrees saying, "Instead of helping the middle class, Republicans are holding hostage critical job-creating and national-security measures to give more tax breaks to the wealthy and CEOs who ship American jobs overseas."

While both the Democrats and Republicans have responsibility for our current political climate, the Republicans have continued to embark on an uncompromising partisan campaign to stagnate legislation that seeks to assist Americans in need. The church can no longer stand by while the African American community suffers.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke reports that 40% of unemployed Americans have been unemployed for six months or more – an unusually high rate. To make matters worse, Bernanke highlights another troubling aspect of the American economy – “The gap between rich and poor in this country has never been greater. In fact, we have the biggest income disparity gap of any industrialized country in the world. It leads to an unequal society - I wonder where you think that's taking America”.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of NBCI says, “It is morally outrageous that the Republican Party thinks that a fair use of their power is to hold unemployment benefits hostage to benefit the rich. Their stance is wrong and hurts the American people.” Rev. Paul Sewell, leader of NBCI’s Southern Faith Command agrees, saying, “Just the other day I witnessed three families forced to live in shelters because their unemployment benefits ran out and they were unable to retain their homes. The church’s benevolent coffers are empty – we cannot continue being the sole supporter of the needy.”

About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI’s mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative’s methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science. The National Black Church Initiative’s purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI’s programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at www.naltblackchurch.com.