

## Fact Check of Governor Palin's Speech

STATEMENT	RESPONSE
<p>PALIN: "Our opponents say, again and again, that drilling will not solve all of America's energy problems - as if we all didn't know that already. But the fact that drilling won't solve every problem is no excuse to do nothing at all."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN SAID SHE WOULD BEG TO DISAGREE WITH ANY CANDIDATE WHO SAID WE CAN'T DRILL OUR WAY OUT OF OUR PROBLEM</b></p> <p><b>Palin Said She Would Beg to Disagree With Candidate Who Said We Can't Drill Our Way Out of Our Problem.</b> Asked by Investor's Business Daily "Some politicians and presidential candidates say we can't drill our way out of our energy problem and that drilling in ANWR will have no effect. What's your best guess of the impact on prices?" Palin responded, "I beg to disagree with any candidate who would say we can't drill our way out of our problem or that more supply won't ultimately affect prices. Of course it will affect prices. Energy being a global market, it's impossible to venture a guess on (specific) prices." [Investor's Business Daily, <a href="#">7/11/08</a>]</p>
<p>PALIN: "Senator McCain also promises to use the power of veto in defense of the public interest - and as a chief executive, I can assure you it works."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN OPPOSED CRUCIAL EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE AND SENIORS FUNDING</b></p> <p><b>EDUCATION/CHILDREN</b></p> <p>Total: 396,000.</p> <p>Anchorage – Fire Lake Elementary School Replacement of Unsafe Sports Equipment. Palin vetoed \$10,000. [FY08 Budget]</p> <p>Tanana City School District – Repair School Bus. Palin vetoed \$36,000. [FY08 Budget]</p> <p>American Lung Association of Alaska – Asthma Control Program and Champ Camp. Palin vetoed \$350,000. [FY08 Budget]</p> <p><b>HOSPITALS/HEALTH CARE</b></p> <p>Total: \$4,527,500.</p> <p>Ketchikan General Hospital Surgical Suite Expansion/Relocation. Palin vetoed \$4,400,000. [FY09 Budget]</p> <p>Ketchikan General Hospital – Replacement of Outdated Equipment. Palin vetoed \$70,000. [2007 Legislature Supplemental]</p> <p>Sitka – Community Hospital – Medical Equipment. Palin vetoed \$31,000. [2007 Legislature Supplemental]</p> <p>Kenai Peninsula Borough – Diagnostic Hospital Equipment. Palin vetoed \$26,500. [2007 Legislature Supplemental]</p> <p><b>SENIORS</b></p> <p>Total: \$600,000.</p> <p>Ketchikan Senior Citizens, Inc. – Access Road for Pioneer Heights. Palin vetoed \$300,000. [FY08 Budget]</p> <p>AARP Ketchikan – Access Road for Ketchikan Senior Housing Project. Palin vetoed \$100,000. [2007 Legislature Supplemental]</p> <p>Catholic Community Services – Angoon Senior Center Stove, Refrigerator and Freezer. Palin vetoed \$20,000 <i>twice</i>. [FY08 Budget, 2007 Legislature Supplemental]</p> <p>Alpha Omega Life Care, Inc. – Delivery Van and Moveable Building. Palin vetoed \$20,000. [FY09 Budget]</p> <p>Older Persons Action Group – Senior Voice Equipment Upgrade. Palin vetoed \$20,000. [FY09 Budget]</p> <p>Statewide Independent Living Centers – Assistive Technology for Alaska's Centers for Independent Living. Palin vetoed \$125,000. [FY09 Budget]</p> <p>Kodiak Senior Center – Facilities repair and Equipment. Palin vetoed \$15,000. [2007 Legislature Supplemental]</p>
<p>PALIN: "Before I became governor of the great state of Alaska, I was mayor of my hometown."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: UNDER PALIN, WASILLA GOVERNMENT SPENDING &amp; DEBT SKYROCKETED.</b></p> <p><b>Total Government Expenditures Increased 63 Percent Under Palin In</b></p>

**Total Government Expenditures increased 63 Percent Under Palin.** In fiscal 2003—the last fiscal year Palin approved the budget—the total government expenditures of Wasilla, excluding capital outlays, were \$7,046,325. In fiscal 1996—the year before Palin took control of the budget—the expenditures were \$4,317,947. The increase was 63 percent. [Wasilla Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2003, Table 1]

**Palin Supported Increasing Wasilla Sales Tax From 2 to 2.5 Percent to Build \$14.7 Million Sports Center.** "Wasilla residents have given the go ahead to building a new multiuse sports center in town and to raising the city sales tax to pay for it. With the final votes counted Friday, residents voted 306 to 286 in favor of a measure to raise the city sales tax from 2 percent to 2.5 percent to pay the estimated \$14.7 million cost of building the center... Mayor Sarah Palin, who supported the measure, said the tight vote will motivate city officials to keep a close eye on the budget for the center." [Anchorage Daily News, 3/9/02]

**Palin Left Behind Almost \$19 Million In Long-Term Debt, Compared to None Before She Was Mayor.** In fiscal 2003—the last fiscal year Palin approved the budget—the bonded long-term debt was \$18,635,000. In fiscal 1996—the year before Palin took control of the budget—there was no general obligation debt. [Wasilla Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2003, Table 10]

PALIN: "It was the spirit that brought me to the governor's office, when I took on the old politics as usual in Juneau ... when I stood up to the special interests, the lobbyists, big oil companies, and the good-ol' boys network."

**REALITY: PALIN HAS A LT. GOVERNOR WHO IS A FORMER OIL LOBBYIST, HIRED WASILLA'S FIRST FEDERAL LOBBYIST (A FORMER STEVENS STAFFER) & HAD THE SUPPORT OF ENTRENCHED ALASKA POLITICIANS DURING HER 2006 RACE.**

**Palin's Oil & Gas Appointee Is Former Lobbyist for TransCanada.** "Marty Rutherford, who leads Gov. Sarah Palin's gas pipeline team, made \$40,200 in 2003 while consulting in Juneau for a pipeline subsidiary of TransCanada. TransCanada is one of the companies bidding for a state license to build a pipeline to carry gas to market from Alaska's North Slope. It's not a disqualifier, but the past connection deserves a second thought." [Anchorage Daily News editorial, 12/15/07]

**Palin "Counting on Her Lieutenant Governor Candidate... Former Oil Lobbyist" to Help Win Oil Industry Support.** "The defiantly grass-roots nature of the campaign may have distanced her from certain traditional centers of power in Alaska. The oil industry is one -- but the campaign says it is counting on her lieutenant governor candidate, Parnell, a former oil lobbyist and legislator, to help there." [Anchorage Daily News, 10/24/06]

**Palin's Former Chief of Staff is Stevens' Campaign Manager.** "Monegan says pressure came from those around Palin, including former Palin chief-of-staff Mike Tibbles, Department of Administration Commissioner Annette Kreitzer, and director of boards and commissions Frank Bailey. Tibbles, who is now the campaign manager for Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens, said Friday he couldn't comment on whether he spoke to Monegan about Wooten." [Anchorage Daily, 7/19/08]

**As Mayor, Palin Hired a Washington Lobbyist to Help Get Earmarks for Wasilla – Lobbyist Was Former Chief of Staff for Indicted Senator Ted Stevens.** "And as mayor of the small town of Wasilla from 1996 to 2002, Palin also hired a Washington lobbying firm that helped secure \$8 million in congressionally directed spending projects, known as earmarks, according to public spending records compiled by the watchdog group Citizens Against Government Waste and lobbying documents. Wasilla's lobbying firm was headed by Steven Silver — a former chief of staff to Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens, a key proponent of the bridge project." [USA Today, 8/31/08]

**The Usual Alaska Suspects - Ted Stevens, Don Young, And Lisa Murkowski Fundraised For Palin.** "Will we see Ted Stevens stumping for Sarah Palin? Palin said this morning that Stevens appeared at a fund-raiser for her in Ketchikan and gave a speech about 'moving Alaska forward.' But does that mean he'll pop up in any advertisements? (Remember his arguably pivotal role at the end of the Knowles and Murkowski Senate race?) Palin said she doubts it and hasn't asked... She said Don Young came to one of her fund-raisers two days ago, and she expects Lisa Murkowski at an upcoming event. Tonight she planned to talk with John Binkley, who she says is writing a letter to his supporters on her behalf, and she planned to meet with Frank Murkowski tomorrow morning." ["The Trail" blog, Anchorage Daily News, 10/13/06]

**In Her 2002 Campaign for Lieutenant Governor, Palin Raised 'About 10 Percent Of Her Campaign Fund' From Veco, An Oil Company At the Heart of Federal Investigation.** "While mayor of Wasilla, Palin ran for lieutenant governor in 2002. She gathered \$5,000 -- or about

	<p>10 percent of her campaign fund -- from Veco officials or their wives along the way." [Anchorage Daily News, 9/6/06]</p>
<p>PALIN: "I came to office promising major ethics reform, to end the culture of self-dealing. And today, that ethics reform is the law."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN SIGNED WEAK ETHICS REFORM BILL &amp; HAS HAD NUMEROUS ETHICAL FLAPS OF HER OWN.</b></p> <p><b>Palin Signed Ethics Reform Legislation That Anchorage Republican Bob Roses Said Didn't Go Far Enough.</b> "An ethics reform package for state officials was signed into law Monday by Gov. Sarah Palin, just minutes after a former state representative was convicted on seven federal extortion and bribery counts. Palin said the law will help re-establish trust between the public and elected officials by improving on existing statutes. ... Ethics reform had been a recurring theme throughout Palin's election campaign, and she pushed hard for the bill to become a bipartisan effort in the Legislature this session. She said she remains determined to clean up Alaska politics. ... Rep. Bob Roses, R-Anchorage, who succeed Anderson in the Legislature when Anderson didn't seek re-election in 2006, said the law didn't go far enough. Campaign contributions should be available for immediate public scrutiny, he said, and all contributions should be reported, even those below the current \$1,000 threshold. 'Quite frankly, I thought some of the things should have been a little tighter than what they were, but this is a first step,' he said." [The Associated Press State &amp; Local Wire, 7/10/07]</p> <p><b>AUGUST 2008: Ethics Complaint Filed Against Gov. Palin Over Alleged Involvement in Hiring a Campaign Contributor.</b> In August 2008, former state House member Andree McLeod filed against Gov. Sarah Palin and her staff today with the Attorney General's Office. It accuses the governor's office of using its pull to get a Palin supporter hired to a [Department of Transportation] job in Fairbanks." McLeod said " 'Executive branch employee shouldn't be getting involved in the recruitment process unless it's based on merit,' said Andree McLeod, who wrote the complaint based on a series of e-mails between members of Palin's team...The complaint accuses Palin, her acting chief of staff and others of breaking executive ethics branch and hiring rules. It centers on the hiring of surveyor Tom Lamal, who once co-hosted a Palin fundraiser, for a state right-of-way agent job in Fairbanks." The complaint is available at <a href="http://community.adn.com/sites/community.adn.com/files/McLeod_Ethics_Complaint1.pdf">http://community.adn.com/sites/community.adn.com/files/McLeod_Ethics_Complaint1.pdf</a> [Anchorage Daily News, <a href="http://community.adn.com/adn/node/128527">http://community.adn.com/adn/node/128527</a>, 8/6/08; Anchorage Daily News, <a href="http://www.adn.com/front/story/486163.html">http://www.adn.com/front/story/486163.html</a>, 8/7/08]</p> <p><b>July 2008: Special Counsel Appointed Last Month to Investigate Palin Abuse of Power Claim.</b> In July 2008, the Alaska State Legislator voted 12-0 to approve \$100,000 for a special investigator to begin an investigation into claims Palin fired a former state official because he would not fire a state trooper who was involved in a bitter custody battle with Palin's sister. The legislator's intent was to investigate the events surrounding the termination of former Dept. of Public Safety Commissioner Walt Monegan and potential abuses of power and improper action by Palin and her administration. [KTVA 11, <a href="http://www.ktva.com/story/486163.html">07/28/08</a>]</p>
<p>PALIN: "I suspended the state fuel tax, and championed reform to end the abuses of earmark spending by Congress."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: ALASKA HAS REQUESTED \$589 MILLION IN PORK SINCE PALIN TOOK OFFICE &amp; AS MAYOR, SHE HIRED WASILLA'S FIRST FEDERAL LOBBYIST TO SECURE EARMARKS FOR THE TOWN.</b></p> <p><b>Over \$589 Million in Federal Pork Requests During Palin's Tenure as Governor.</b> According to Citizens Against Government Waste, <a href="http://www.cagw.org">www.cagw.org</a>, under Palin's tenure as Governor the state of Alaska has asked for \$589,599,715 in pork barrel projects. [2007 and 2008 Pig Book, <a href="http://www.cagw.org">www.cagw.org</a>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alaska Has Sought 31 Earmarks Worth \$197.8 Million in Next Year's Federal Budget.</b> "But under her leadership, the state of Alaska has requested 31 earmarks worth \$197.8 million in next year's federal budget, according to the website of Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), the former chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee." [LA Times, <a href="http://www.latimes.com">9/1/08</a>]</li> <li>• <b>As Mayor, Palin Hired a Washington Lobbyist to Help Get Millions in Earmarks for Wasilla – Lobbyist Was Former Chief of Staff for Indicted Senator Ted Stevens.</b> "And as mayor of the small town of Wasilla from 1996 to 2002, Palin also hired a Washington lobbying firm that helped secure \$8 million in congressionally directed spending projects, known as earmarks, according to public spending records compiled by the watchdog group Citizens Against Government Waste and lobbying documents. Wasilla's lobbying firm was headed by Steven Silver — a former chief of staff to Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens, a key proponent of the bridge project." [USA Today, <a href="http://www.usatoday.com">8/31/08</a>]</li> <li>• <b>Under Palin, Wasilla Received \$26.9 Million in Earmarks.</b> "As mayor of Wasilla, Palin made regular trips to Washington seeking federal aid. The city received \$26.9 million in earmarks during her tenure from fiscal year 2000 to 2003, according to the nonpartisan Taxpayers for Common Sense, which tracks pork barrel spending." [LA Times, <a href="http://www.latimes.com">9/2/08</a>]</li> </ul>

	<p><b>McCain Criticized Earmarks that Palin Sought as Mayor.</b> "Three times in recent years, McCain's catalogs of "objectionable" spending have included earmarks for this small Alaska town, requested by its mayor at the time -- Sarah Palin... In 2001, McCain's list of spending that had been approved without the normal budget scrutiny included a \$500,000 earmark for a public transportation project in Wasilla. The Arizona senator targeted \$1 million in a 2002 spending bill for an emergency communications center in town -- one that local law enforcement has said is redundant and creates confusion. McCain also criticized \$450,000 set aside for an agricultural processing facility in Wasilla that was requested during Palin's tenure as mayor and cleared Congress soon after she left office in 2002. The funding was provided to help direct locally grown produce to schools, prisons and other government institutions, according to Taxpayers for Common Sense, a nonpartisan watchdog group." [LA Times, <a href="#">9/3/08</a>]</p>
<p>PALIN: "In fact, I told Congress -- I told Congress, 'Thanks, but no thanks,' on that bridge to nowhere."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN WAS FOR THE BRIDGE TO NOWHERE BEFORE SHE WAS AGAINST IT.</b></p> <p><b>October 2006" Palin Supported Bridge To Nowhere.</b> In 2006, Palin was asked, "Would you continue state funding for the proposed Knik Arm and Gravina Island bridges?" She responded, "Yes. I would like to see Alaska's infrastructure projects built sooner rather than later. The window is now--while our congressional delegation is in a strong position to assist." [Anchorage, 10/22/06, republished 08/29/08]</p> <p><b>2006: Palin: Don't Allow "Spinmeisters" To Turn Bridge To Nowhere Project "Into Something That's So Negative."</b> "Part of my agenda is making sure that Southeast is heard. That your projects are important. That we go to bat for Southeast when we're up against federal influences that aren't in the best interest of Southeast.' She cited the widespread negative attention focused on the Gravina Island crossing project. 'We need to come to the defense of Southeast Alaska when proposals are on the table like the bridge and not allow the spinmeisters to turn this project or any other into something that's so negative,' Palin said." [Ketchikan Daily News, 10/2/06]</p> <p><b>REALITY: PALIN ONLY ANNOUNCED OPPOSITION TO ONE "BRIDGE TO NOWHERE," STILL SUPPORTS THE OTHER ONE</b></p> <p><b>Palin Refused to Fund Ketchikan Bridge, But Did Not Stop Funding for Knik Arm Bridge.</b>"Among the earmarks: \$449 million for what critics have ridiculed as two 'bridges to nowhere' -- one in Ketchikan and one across Knik Arm in Anchorage formally named Don Young's Way. Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, also a Republican, last month refused to use any more money for the Ketchikan project, redirecting it for other purposes." [Anchorage Daily News, 11/11/07]</p> <p><b>As Recently as June, State Asking for Cost Estimate Proposals for Knik Arm.</b> "An independent party will be called in to look at one of the most elusive aspects of a proposed bridge linking Anchorage and Mat-Su: the price tag. Gordon Keith, regional director for the state Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, said his office will be putting the job of estimating the cost of the controversial project out for bids in coming weeks. He said the task of coming up with a price could cost up to \$200,000 and take up to 3½ months. 'The issue keeps swirling around, so we thought it best to go ahead and do an independent estimate,' he said. The cost to get the estimate is going to be high 'if you want to do it correctly,' he said. The cost of a span reaching across Knik Arm from Anchorage to Point MacKenzie has ranged over the years from \$450 million to \$1 billion, depending on what kind of bridge is envisioned and what starting date is plugged into the formula... Randy Ruaro, a special assistant to Gov. Sarah Palin, said the administration, even in the face of the recent lengthy report from the bridge authority, was having trouble getting an accurate picture of everything that is involved in the project, of the timing of the phases, and of the costs. He said the independent estimate is expected to answer those questions. Mary Ann Pease, spokeswoman for the authority, said she welcomes the effort to get updated costs." [Anchorage Daily News, 6/22/08]</p>
<p>PALIN: "But we are expected to govern with integrity, and goodwill, and clear convictions..."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR ABUSE OF POWER.</b></p> <p><b>Former State Official Accused Palin, Palin's Former Chief of Staff and Current Ted Stevens Campaign Manager and Palin's Husband Of Pressuring Him to Fire Trooper.</b> In July 2008, former state official Walt Monegan accused Palin, Palin's former Chief of Staff and current Stevens' campaign manager Mike Tibbles and husband Todd Palin of pressuring him to fire Palin sister's ex-husband Mike Wooten. [Anchorage Daily News, <a href="#">07/18/08</a>]</p> <p><b>July 2008: Special Counsel Appointed Last Month to Investigate Palin Abuse of Power Claim.</b> In July 2008, the Alaska State Legislator voted 12-0 to approve \$100,000 for a special investigator to begin an investigation into claims Palin fired a former state official because he would not fire a state trooper who was involved in a bitter custody battle with Palin's sister. The legislator's intent was to investigate the events surrounding the termination of former Dept. of Public Safety Commissioner Walt Monegan and potential abuses of power and improper action by Palin and her administration. [KTVA 11, <a href="#">07/28/08</a>]</p>
<p>PALIN: "As Governor, I have a record of</p>	<p><b>Palin Increased Taxes on Oil Companies to Pav for \$1.200 Giveaway to</b></p>

<p>being a strong fiscal conservative and have vetoed millions in special projects pushed by legislators."</p>	<p><b>Every Resident in the State.</b> "One of her most significant accomplishments as governor was passing a major tax increase on state oil production, angering oil companies but raising billions of dollars in new revenue. She said the oil companies had previously bribed legislators to keep the taxes low. She subsequently championed legislation that would give some of that money back to Alaskans: Soon, every Alaskan will receive a \$1,200 check." [New York Times, <a href="#">8/30/08</a>]</p>
<p>PALIN: "I understand that we must reduce our dependence on foreign energy. I've worked with our state's energy producers to expand our production so that we can have a safe, reliable supply of energy produced here in the United States."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN SUPPORTED EXPORTING NATURAL GAS WHILE ALASKA BUSINESSES CLOSED BECAUSE OF SHORTAGES</b></p> <p><b>Palin Backed A Two-Year Extension Of The Export License To Export Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) To Japan And Other Asian Countries—Criticized Because Alaska's Gas Reserves Are Declining.</b> "Alaska producers can continue shipping gas to Asia after DOE last week approved an extension of the <b>export license</b> for the Kenai liquefied natural gas plant owned by ConocoPhillips and Marathon. The companies will be allowed to export up to 98.1 Bcf to Japan and other Pacific Rim countries over a two-year period through March 31, 2011. [...] The application came under fire from local end-users, including gas distribution companies Enstar and the Chugach Electric Association, <b>as well as fertilizer maker Agrium</b>, all of which claimed the exports would exacerbate the problem of declining gas reserves in south-central Alaska. Agrium permanently closed its plant near Kenai due to an inability to find enough local supply for the facility that used 53 Bcf/year. In January, ConocoPhillips and Marathon reached a deal in which they agreed to step up development in the Cook Inlet region in return for the state's support of the export license extension. The producers also agreed to divert gas from the LNG plant as needed to meet the peak winter supply needs of the local utilities. [...] Alaska Governor Sarah Palin welcomed the DOE approval. "In these times of economic uncertainty, this is great news for the state and its residents. This extension will secure a future for the LNG operation and is another step toward ensuring energy supplies and energy security for Alaska," the Republican governor said. [Platts Inside FERC, 6/9/08]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Agrium Closed Manufacturing Plant Because Of Gas Shortage.</b> "Reserves of gas in producing fields in Southcentral Alaska are declining, posing concerns for supply to local utilities. A manufacturing plant on the Kenai Peninsula owned by Agrium Corp. recently announced it would close because the gas shortage." [Alaska Journal Of Commerce, 11/25/07]</li> <li>• <b>Gov. Palin: Agrium Closure Is Unfortunate.</b> "Agrium announced yesterday that the plant will close in December due to a shortage in the supply of Cook Inlet natural gas, leaving about 100 of the 140 employees without employment. 'It's unfortunate to see the closure of a facility that has provided so many jobs that support families on the Peninsula,' said Governor Palin. 'I am heartened to hear that Agrium is willing to keep its options open if sufficient long-term supplies of gas can be found. We know there is more gas to be found and developed in Cook Inlet, so I remain hopeful that those jobs can be preserved.'" [Palin <a href="#">press release</a>, 9/26/07]</li> </ul>
<p>PALIN: "And despite fierce opposition from oil company lobbyists, who kind of liked things the way they were, we broke their monopoly on power and resources." This</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN IS CLOSE TO THE OIL INDUSTRY</b></p> <p><b>Sierra Club Director Carl Pope Said "No One is Closer to the Oil Industry Than Governor Palin."</b> "No one is closer to the oil industry than Governor Palin," said Carl Pope, executive director of the Sierra Club in comments reflecting the views of a cross section of environmental activists. They cite her eagerness to embrace expanded offshore oil development, her lawsuit against further protection of polar bears so as not to hinder oil drilling in Alaska's ice-filled waters and her ardent support to allow oil companies into the Alaska wildlife refuge. [Associated Press, August 30, 2008]</p> <p><b>Palin Took \$13,000 from Lobbyists Representing the Oil Industry in Her 2006 Campaign for Governor.</b> The lobbyists who donated to her campaign represent a range of industries, including oil and gas, tobacco, education and the Native Alaskan community. "She's fought oil companies and party bosses and do-nothing bureaucrats and anyone who puts their interests before the interests of the people she swore an oath to serve," Mr. McCain said Friday at an Ohio rally to introduce her as his running mate. But since Mrs. Palin leads a major oil-producing state, that industry is one of her top donors. She collected nearly \$13,000 from lobbyists who represent oil and gas industries in her primary and general campaigns, according a review of her campaign donations and 2006 registered state lobbyists. [Washington Times, September 1, 2008]</p>
<p>PALIN: "Starting in January, in a McCain-Palin administration, we're going to lay more pipelines ... build more new-clear plants ... create jobs with clean coal ... and move forward on solar, wind, geothermal, and other alternative sources."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN CUT FUNDING FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY</b></p> <p><b>2007: Palin Vetoed \$20 Million Toward A Fire Island Wind Farm Project.</b> "[Sen. Hollis] French and [Anchorage Mayor Mark] Begich both lamented the [Palin] veto of \$20 million toward a Fire Island wind farm project and connecting transmission lines. That money was part of Railbelt Energy Fund cash that Palin said she doesn't want to spend until a study on energy needs is finished." [Anchorage Daily News (Alaska), 7/30/07]</p>

	<p><b>2008: Palin Cut \$20 Million For Chugach Electric Association Wind Farm.</b> As part of a large package of budget cuts, in June 2007, Gov. Sarah Palin, R-AK, cut \$20 million in funding for a Chugach Electric Association wind farm. The funding was expected to come from a fund called the Railbelt Energy Fund. Palin said she cut the \$20 million because she wanted more information before dipping into the Railbelt Energy Fund. [Anchorage Daily News, 6/30/08]</p>
<p>PALIN: "Taxes are too high ... he wants to raise them."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: PALIN HAS REPEATEDLY SUPPORTED TAX INCREASES</b></p> <p><b>Palin Supported Increasing Wasilla Sales Tax From 2 to 2.5 Percent to Build \$14.7 Million Sports Center.</b> "Wasilla residents have given the go ahead to building a new multiuse sports center in town and to raising the city sales tax to pay for it. With the final votes counted Friday, residents voted 306 to 286 in favor of a measure to raise the city sales tax from 2 percent to 2.5 percent to pay the estimated \$14.7 million cost of building the center...Mayor Sarah Palin, who supported the measure, said the tight vote will motivate city officials to keep a close eye on the budget for the center." [Anchorage Daily News, 3/9/02]</p> <p><b>Palin Increased Taxes on Oil Companies to Pay for \$1,200 Giveaway to Every Resident in the State.</b> "One of her most significant accomplishments as governor was passing a major tax increase on state oil production, angering oil companies but raising billions of dollars in new revenue. She said the oil companies had previously bribed legislators to keep the taxes low. She subsequently championed legislation that would give some of that money back to Alaskans: Soon, every Alaskan will receive a \$1,200 check." [New York Times, 8/30/08]</p>
<p>PALIN: "It was just a year ago when all the experts in Washington counted out our nominee because he refused to hedge his commitment to the security of the country he loves.</p> <p>With their usual certitude, they told us that all was lost - there was no hope for this candidate who said that he would rather lose an election than see his country lose a war.</p> <p>But the pollsters and pundits overlooked just one thing when they wrote him off.</p> <p>They overlooked the caliber of the man himself - the determination, resolve, and sheer guts of Senator John McCain. The voters knew better."</p>	<p><b>REALITY: MCCAIN COUNTED MCCAIN OUT TWICE</b></p> <p><b>February 2008: Palin Wouldn't Endorse McCain.</b> "Top Alaska Republicans were downcast Thursday as Mitt Romney suspended his presidential campaign just two days after overwhelmingly winning the state party caucus. Romney's decision makes it nearly certain Arizona Sen. John McCain will be the party's nominee for president. McCain finished dead last in the Alaska Republican preference poll, behind Romney, Mike Huckabee and Ron Paul. McCain opposes drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and has repeatedly battled with Sen. Ted Stevens over federal spending on Alaska projects... Republican Gov. Sarah Palin said she won't make an endorsement until she can speak to McCain. [Anchorage Daily News (Alaska), 2/3/08]</p> <p><b>July 2007: Palin Was Waiting For A New Player In GOP Primary.</b> 'A lot of us are sitting back and waiting to see if there will be new players in there,' Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin said. 'That's probably why that box that says 'none of the above' is so popular right now.' [The Associated Press State &amp; Local Wire, 7/23/07]</p> <p><b>Palin Couldn't Support McCain Because Of His Opposition To ANWR.</b> "Some Alaska Republicans are conflicted over McCain, including Gov. Sarah Palin. They like his maverick reputation and military background but not his opposition to drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. 'She said she'd like to support McCain but felt she couldn't at this particular time because of his stand on ANWR,' said the governor's spokeswoman, Sharon Leighow." [Anchorage Daily News (Alaska), 2/3/08]</p>
<p>PALIN: "They are the ones who do some of the hardest work in America ... who grow our food, run our factories, and fight our wars."</p>	<p><b>Palin Backed A Two-Year Extension Of The Export License To Export Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) To Japan And Other Asian Countries—Criticized Because Alaska's Gas Reserves Are Declining.</b> "Alaska producers can continue shipping gas to Asia after DOE last week approved an extension of the <b>export license</b> for the Kenai liquefied natural gas plant owned by ConocoPhillips and Marathon. The companies will be allowed to export up to 98.1 Bcf to Japan and other Pacific Rim countries over a two-year period through March 31, 2011. [...] The application came under fire from local end-users, including gas distribution companies Enstar and the Chugach Electric Association, as well as fertilizer maker Agrium, all of which claimed the exports would exacerbate the problem of declining gas reserves in south-central Alaska. Agrium permanently closed its plant near Kenai due to an inability to find enough local supply for the facility that used 53 Bcf/year. In January, ConocoPhillips and Marathon reached a deal in which they agreed to step up development in the Cook Inlet region in return for the state's support of the export license extension. The producers also agreed to divert gas from the LNG plant as needed to meet the peak winter supply needs of the local utilities. [...] Alaska Governor Sarah Palin welcomed the DOE approval. "In these times of economic uncertainty, this is great news for the state and its residents. This extension will secure a future for the LNG operation and is another step toward ensuring energy supplies and energy security for Alaska," the Republican governor said. [Platts Inside FERC, 6/9/08]</p> <p><b>Agrium Closed Manufacturing Plant Because Of Gas Shortage.</b> "Reserves of gas in producing fields in Southcentral Alaska are declining, posing concerns for supply to local utilities. A manufacturing plant on the Kenai Peninsula owned by Agrium Corp. recently announced it would close because the gas shortage." [Alaska Journal Of Commerce, 11/25/07]</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Gov. Palin: Agrium Closure Is Unfortunate.</b> "Agrium announced yesterday that the plant will close in December due to a shortage in the supply of Cook Inlet natural gas, leaving about 100 of the 140 employees without employment. 'It's unfortunate to see the closure of a facility that has provided so many jobs that support families on the Peninsula,' said Governor Palin. 'I am heartened to hear that Agrium is willing to keep its options open if sufficient long-term supplies of gas can be found. We know there is more gas to be found and developed in Cook Inlet, so I remain hopeful that those jobs can be preserved.'" [Palin <a href="#">press release</a>, 9/26/07]</li> </ul>
<p>PALIN: "As for my running mate, you can be certain that wherever he goes, and whoever is listening, John McCain is the same man. I'm not a member of the permanent political establishment."</p>	<p><b>1999: Campaigning In San Francisco, CA, McCain Said "I Would Not Support Repeal Of Roe v. Wade."</b> In August 1999, the San Francisco Chronicle reported that McCain said he "would not support repeal of Roe vs. Wade": "I'd love to see a point where (Roe vs. Wade) is irrelevant, and could be repealed because abortion is no longer necessary. But certainly in the short term, or even the long term, I would not support repeal of Roe vs. Wade, which would then force X number of women in America to (undergo) illegal and dangerous operations." [The San Francisco Chronicle, 8/20/99]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>McCain Said Roe v. Wade Should Be Overturned.</b> McCain said, "I do not support Roe v. Wade. I think it should be overturned." [New York Times, 2/24/07]</li> </ul> <p><b>At A Private Meeting With Hispanic Community Leaders, McCain "Assured Leaders He Would Push Through Congress Legislation To Overhaul Federal Immigration Laws If Elected."</b> "Republican presidential John McCain assured Hispanic leaders he would push through Congress legislation to overhaul federal immigration laws if elected, several people who attended a private meeting with the candidate said Thursday. Democrats questioned why the Arizona senator held the meeting late Wednesday night in Chicago. But supporters who were in the room denied that McCain held the closed-door session out of fear of offending conservatives, many of whom want him to take a harder line on immigration. ... 'He's one John McCain</p>