

Summary of Job Creation Proposals

Chicago Political Economy Group (Ron Baiman, Bill Barclay, Sidney Hollander, Joe Persky, Elce Redmond, & Mel Rothenberg)

A Permanent Jobs Program for the U.S.:

Economic Restructuring to Meet Human Needs

<http://www.cpeonline.org/reports/jobs.pdf> Released November 2009

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CPEG proposes the direct creation or subsidy of 3.5 million new high quality jobs by government each year for five years in public infrastructure, current social services and industries of the future. Jobs should pay the average wage of \$18 an hour or \$37,440 a year (2009). Should have benefits others enjoy, including the right to join unions. The estimated cost for 5 years is \$867.5 billion to be paid for by a taxes on financial transactions as well as on high incomes and large aggregations of wealth, a shift in budgetary priorities that shifts revenues out of the military and increases taxes on environmentally unsustainable productions and any remaining gap filled by the ability of the federal government to increase the money supply,

Proposal of William A. Darity, Jr.

A Direct Route to Full Employment

William A. Darity, Jr. (2010). A Direct Route to Full Employment. Review of Black Political Economy, 37, 179-181.

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The proposal is for a federal job guarantee that would insure that all persons willing to work would be able to obtain work. Workers, who would be employed by a National Investment Employment Corporation, would be paid an average salary of \$40,000, or a minimum annual salary of \$20,000, plus \$10,000 in benefits. The jobs would address the nation's vast unmet physical and human infrastructure needs, provide security for workers and improved health. Working poverty would be eliminated, and there would be opportunities for former prisoners to obtain jobs and become useful members of society.

National Jobs for All Coalition (Charles Bell, Helen Lachs Ginsburg, Gertrude Schaffner Goldberg, Philip Harvey, & June Zaccone)

The Drive for Decent Work

<http://www.njfac.org/sharedpros.pdf>

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NJFAC's proposal simultaneously attacks economic inequality and the nation's double deficits: the chronic shortage of decent jobs and of public investment. NJFAC supports any pending legislation to meet unmet public needs for physical and human infrastructure that would directly and indirectly create living-wage jobs. Since NJFAC supports the right to a living-wage job for every person who wants to work, any remaining job deficit—huge at present—would be attacked through a proposed Public Investment Act that includes a permanent Public Works Authority to provide long-term funding for high-priority public works and human service projects not currently funded. Also proposed is a Public Investment Fund/Public Service Employment Program. The number of jobs to be created is open-ended, varying with the number of persons unemployed and underemployed.

Proposal of Philip Harvey

Back to Work: A Public Jobs Proposal for Economic Recovery
(Demos, March 2011)

Contact: Philip Harvey Tel. 856-225-6386 Email: pharvey@camden.rutgers.edu

<http://www.demos.org/pubs/BackToWork.pdf>

Harvey proposes that direct job creation be used to close the economy's job gap and simultaneously deliver a fiscal stimulus to the private sector. He has estimated that after taking additional revenues and savings generated by the initiative into consideration, federal spending would have to be increased by only about \$235 billion the first year and \$147 billion the second to fund a direct job-creation program capable of reducing the nation's unemployment rate immediately to its pre-recession peak of about 4.5

%, and keep it there while the private sector recovered from the recession. For approximately \$200 billion more per year, he estimates that the economy's job gap could be entirely eliminated by means of the direct job-creation strategy. Achieving full employment in this way, he argues, would permit the federal government to permanently secure the right to work recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights without causing the rate of inflation to increase.

Economic Policy Institute, Demos and the Century Foundation

Investing in America's Economy: A Budget Blueprint for
Economic Recovery and Fiscal Responsibility, November 2009.

http://www.epi.org/page/-/EPI_BlueprintPaper_R7.pdf?nocdn=1

The proposal is to create jobs and invest in the American economy through annual expenditures in the \$200-250 billion range in the areas of child care and education; transportation, roads, bridges and water systems; health information technology, rural broadband connectivity, and "fundamental R& D." Expansionary fiscal policy should be maintained until unemployment is 6% or less for at least 6 months. The longer-term goal of putting the federal budget on a sustainable course would be achieved through increasing revenues (taxing those most able to pay) and cutting costs in the areas of health care and military spending.

National Urban League (Marc H. Morial, Valerie Rawlston Williams, Cy Richardson, & Terry Clark)

NUL's 6-Point Plan for Job Creation

<http://www.nul.org/content/nuls-6-point-plan-job-creation-0>

Tel. 212-558-5300

The NUL proposes a 6-point direct investment program of \$168 billion over 2 years, the largest portion of which, \$150 billion, would provide financial support to cities, counties, states, universities, community colleges and non-profit community-based organizations to hire personnel necessary to offer critical services in communities. Eligibility would be based on local unemployment rates with a focus on the long-term unemployed. This would create 3 million jobs. The other 5 points in the 6-point program are job training for the chronically unemployed, greater access to credit for small businesses; additional counseling relief for those in the foreclosure process; and tax incentives for clean energy equipment manufacturers who employ individuals in the targeted communities.

Proposal of Robert Pollin

Creating 18 Million Jobs by 2012

Robert Pollin. 18 Million Jobs by 2012: How Obama Can Save His Presidency. The Nation, March 18, 2010, 10-18.

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The proposal was to combine the positive energies of public and private sectors through the following measures that together would result in 4% unemployment by November 2012: channeling cash bank reserves in their Federal Reserve accounts into job-generating investments to small businesses; aiding victims of the recession and sustaining their consumption through continued provision of food stamps and extension of unemployment benefits and adding to these aid to homeowners facing foreclosure; work-sharing measures to avoid straight layoffs; federal aid to state and local governments for use in infrastructure, health and education projects that would generate far more jobs than comparable amounts spent on Afghanistan and Iraq wars; a major federal government initiative retrofitting initiative that would create jobs; reduction of nonfinancial business borrowing rates by the Federal Reserve; and doubling government loan guarantee programs that support small businesses, green investments, students, rural development and affordable housing.

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