The enemy within - BlueDogs join with Republicans to enslave the working class and destroy America

Submitted by bringiton on Fri, 02/06/2009 - 3:00pm

The lines of battle over the economic salvation of America and our working class are now crystal clear. It is Republicans and BlueDogs together on one side, acting in furtherance of the same Corporatists who ran public policy under Reagan and the Bushs, versus the rest of us.

What was a back-room systematic undermining of anything remotely effective in the way of an economic stimulus bill is now an open threat[7]:

"The time for talk is over, the time for action is now," says the president.

Unfortunately, key Blue Dogs are no longer on board.

Thursday's letter from leaders of the coalition called on Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Maryland, to abandon their support for an ambitious stimulus and its spending priorities.

Breaking with the House Democratic leadership and throwing their support behind a push by conservative senators for a bill with less spending, the letter from Blue Dog leader Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, D-South Dakota, and other key leaders of the coalition said of the proposed cuts in stimulus spending:

"We believe that's a highly worthwhile goal, and that there are additional provisions that would be better left for consideration in regular order."

Republicans have already declared that they will do whatever it takes to derail any attempt to do
anything but continue the path of economic destruction launched by Reagan and perpetuated under the Bush family, including the use of Taliban tactics [8].

But aligned with the BlueDogs, all Republicans need do is act within the confines of our existing political system. Together, Republicans and BlueDogs command 54% of the House and 52% of the Senate. Together, they control the legislative agenda and the content of any bill that gets passed. It is the Republicans and the BlueDogs who are the enemy of the people. It is this cabal that is obstructing rational economic behavior, as well as much of other needed rational public policy. These are the people who Progressives must attack, not Pelosi or Reid or even Obama at this point. There is a time to critique, and a time to buckle up; you don't have to agree with the sheriff on everything to still want to round up the outlaws.

Unless Progressives align themselves with the president and the Democratic congressional leadership, there will be no serious counterweight to the demands of the Republican-BlueDog cabal. Continuing to assail Obama and Pelosi and Reid for that which they do not control is to attack the symptoms and ignore the disease.

Nothing will change the Republicans; they are functionally insane, greedy beyond redemption. But many, perhaps most of the BlueDogs can be persuaded to change their behavior by mass action, and that is what Progressives need to be fomenting. Instead of allowing the discussion to occur between the Republican-BlueDog coalition and the Executive, Progressives must take to the streets and demand the change in behavior that the last two elections were about and is long overdue.

Many times, the ballot box is not enough; this is one of them. Progressives and responsible Moderates need to flood the Capitol, overwhelm the offices of the BlueDogs, sit down and refuse to leave until the stimulus bill is passed as submitted in the House. Writing critiques will not be enough; phone calls will not be effective; letters will be ignored; nothing short of undeniable physical presence will be noticed.

Anything less and we might as well take MonkeyFister's advice [9]. To survive you will need, at a minimum, a 12-gauge, a .22 rifle and a 9mm pistol - and plenty of ammunition.

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