

**Quote of the week:** *"It's going to keep snowing in DC until Al Gore cries uncle"*☐

- A recent tweet from Senator Jim DeMint (R-SC)

**Clarification:** I am not **TOM** Campbell. I am **JOHN** Campbell. We are not related (unless we share some kilted ancestor 1,000 years ago in a highlands bog). He is not currently a Member of Congress, whereas I proudly represent California's 48th Congressional District. He is running for U.S. Senate from California. I am not. There seems to be lots of confusion out there so I wanted to set the record straight. I am also younger and better looking. (-;

As I'm sure you know, the federal government, and the House of Representatives, was shut down virtually all of last week because of record blizzard conditions. Maybe when all that snow and ice melts, it will wash away the spending, deficits, and socialism along with it.....OK, I can dream, can't I?

**Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)** recently made an offer to President Obama in response to the President's new found interest in bipartisanship. Senator McConnell pointed out that there were four policies that the President mentioned in his State of the Union speech where there is substantial agreement with Republicans. Those four include: greatly expanding the use of nuclear energy in this country, resuming environmentally safe oil exploration offshore; developing our most abundant domestic energy resource with clean coal technology; and ratifying free trade agreements with South Korea, Colombia ,and Peru. All of these initiatives would create jobs in the United States, cost the government nothing, would actually raise government revenues, lower energy costs to average Americans, and has other benefits such as less dependence on foreign sources of energy. So, Mr. President, we can get to work on these right now, today. And we will start creating those jobs now. You have said you are for these things and so have we. So why wait?

**Triple Down:** Instead, the President's singular obsession with government-run health care continues unabated. And he continues to stall action on the many things that could deal with the country's most pressing needs: jobs and the economy. It is becoming more and more clear that the socialized medicine plan is far from dead. Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Reid continue to work on something to resolve the differences between the House-passed bill and the Senate-passed bill. These discussions are going on behind closed doors. They are holding out the possibility that the House could pass the Senate bill as is and then they would use the "reconciliation process," requiring only 51 votes in the Senate, to pass the changes.

While all this is going on in the back room, the President has called for a bipartisan health

summit on February 25th, which he requires to be televised. House Republican Leader John Boehner asked the President if these discussions could start with a "blank sheet of paper" in order to try to build new bipartisan coalition around some reform of the system. The President flatly rejected that idea. He says that discussions begin with the bills passed already. And, I expect they will end there. The bills that have passed will lead to socialized medicine, vastly increased costs, and huge tax increases. The American people clearly don't want either bill as indicated by huge margins in every poll. These bills will cost many more Americans their jobs at a time when government activity should be focused on increasing jobs.

We should be working on jobs and the economy. But the President, Speaker, and Majority Leader are determined to try to pass their government-run health care bill over the objections of the American people. This "summit" is clearly being crafted not to create a bipartisan solution, but instead find a way to regain traction for the bills they already have. I thought the President was doubling down on his agenda. He is not. He is tripling down if there is such a thing.

Don't fall for it. And stay vigilant.

Until next time, I remain respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Campbell".

Congressman John Campbell  
Member of Congress