

Oberstar Democracy Project



Friends of Jim Oberstar
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Campaign Update

As summer winds down, the Oberstar campaign would like to thank everyone who walked in a parade, volunteered at an event, helped with a doorknock, made phone calls, wrote a letter to the editor, or put up Oberstar lawn signs.

Heading into the fall, we are focusing on direct voter contact. By talking with voters on the phone and at the door, we can discuss issues and share Jim's success story.

Much of our work is done with all of you—by working together, we are helping the entire DFL ticket.

Together, we are going to send the strong message that 8th District is strong, united, and DFL. We look forward to doubling our efforts and staying in communication with all of our friends and volunteers as we head into the final 74 days of this campaign.

After the September 12 primary, we will host conference calls to share our ideas and strategies, and to support each other until Election Day.

Thanks once again, and see you on the campaign trail!

~ The Oberteam

Vote in the Primary September 12

Minnesota's primary will be held on Tuesday, September 12. There is no greater right or privilege than the right to vote; to make your voice heard, to elect responsible leaders, to make a difference.

2006 is a critical year for Democrats nationwide. In Minnesota, we have the opportunity to win three U.S. House seats, retain a U.S. Senate seat, regain a Democratic majority in the Minnesota house, and put a Democrat back in the Governor's seat. Do your part to make it a successful year.

Your interest and participation in this election cycle will help guarantee that Minnesota can once again be a leader for our great nation.

Find your primary polling place at:
<http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

Minnesota has a Voter's Bill of Rights— [View it here.](#)

Remember to Vote 

September 12

Activist Alert

Spotlight on: Bill Cortes



Bill Cortes has been a volunteer with the DFL and has been active in the Oberstar campaign for many years.

Bill is currently volunteering full-time in the Oberstar campaign office as the 8th District Communications Director and was recently instrumental in organizing the Minimum Wage Rally we co-hosted with Amy Klobuchar in Duluth.

Bill also volunteers his time with many laudable causes. Bill has been a member of the Duluth Parks and Recreation Board, Ordean Field Association, State High School League Coaches Association, Center on Alcohol and Drug Problems, and Board of the Women's Health Center in Duluth.

Many thanks to Bill and all of the hard-working, dedicated volunteers who make this campaign possible.

Quote from Bill: "I believe that people joining together with purpose, honest direction and conviction can effect a change, and that change will lead to the betterment of life for all of us. We all need to stand up and fight for what we believe in."

Be Engaged. Participate. Matter.

Increasing the Minimum Wage

The premise of the minimum wage is to give all workers the opportunity to earn a level of compensation that allows them to meet a basic standard of living.

The median family income has decreased every year under the Bush Administration. While the price of a gallon of milk or gasoline has risen with inflation, the minimum wage has remained the same since 1997. This is a critical issue for millions of Americans whose real purchasing power is at the lowest point since 1955. The current minimum wage equals only 31% of the average private sector wage.

H.R. 5970, the Estate Tax and Extension Relief Act of 2006, passed the House of Representatives at 1:30 a.m. on July 29. I did not vote for this blatantly partisan bill because it tied an increase in the minimum wage to a \$753 billion cut in estate taxes for the wealthiest Americans.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that this legislation will slash federal revenues by \$302.4 billion by 2016.

A large majority of Americans support raising the minimum wage. Many states, tired of waiting for the federal government to act, have taken action and increased their minimum wage above the current rate of \$5.15 per hour to help their citizens receive a fair, livable wage.

Raising the minimum wage is about fairness and equality; it is about getting a paycheck that reflects the dignity of a hard day's work. Raising the minimum wage is the right thing to do. Improving the standard of living for those who deserve it most should not be tied to tax breaks for those who need it least.

Are you or someone you know a minimum-wage earner? Please share your story [here](#).

Do you support an increase in the minimum wage? Voice your opinion on this issue at:

minimumwage@oberstar.org

Annual income for minimum wage worker: **\$10,700**

Federal Poverty Level for a single parent (with one child) household: **\$13,200**

Average price of a gallon of gasoline: **\$2.85**

Average number of hours a minimum wage earner must work just to fill their gas tank: **8**

Minimum Wage Rally Held in Duluth



On Friday, August 18, Jim sponsored a Minimum Wage Rally in Duluth with Amy Klobuchar.

Far Left: Duluth residents rally for an increase in the minimum wage

Right: Duluth Resident Joan L. speaks to the crowd about struggling to make ends meet on a non-livable wage.



Far Left: Jim and Amy rally the crowd

Right: Amy and Duluth residents cheer



Jim Oberstar

WORKING for you 
for minnesota

E-mail _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please contact me about—

The Oberstar Democracy Project

Volunteering

Traveling around MN to support Democrats

Placing a lawn sign in my yard

Writing a letter to the editor

Using my name and testimonial

Oberstar
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Please sign me up for—

The Oberstar Democracy Project

E-mail updates from Jim

Please share your story about Jim:
