

Republican Presidential Primary Spending Analysis – John McCain

Total Annual Spending: \$6.935 billion

Economy, Transportation, and Infrastructure: Unknown

A. Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) – Thailand, Malaysia, and South Korea:

“Completing FTAs with Thailand, Malaysia, and South Korea, in concert with the agreements we have already struck with Australia and Singapore, should set the stage for an ambitious Pacific-wide effort to liberalize trade. By concluding bilateral and regional trade agreements, by revitalizing the Doha round of global trade talks, and by ensuring that America stands on the cutting edge of global commerce, we can ensure that the benefits of open markets reach all 50 of our states.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/informing/News/PressReleases/bba416b9-372d-4c2e-ac02-866a37db0c86.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: The primary impact of free trade bills is generally on federal revenues. Depending on the terms of the agreement, there may be some outlays as well. For example, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projects that H.R. 3688, the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (110th Congress), “would reduce revenues by \$20 million in 2008, increase revenues by \$292 million over the 2008-2012 period, and reduce revenues by \$423 million over the 2008-2017 period. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3688 also would increase direct spending by \$4 million in 2008 and by \$27 million over the 2008-2012 period, and reduce direct spending by \$443 million over the 2008-2017 period. Further, CBO estimates that implementing the legislation would result in new discretionary spending of less than \$500,000 per year, assuming the availability of appropriated funds.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=8790&type=1>

B. Free Trade Agreements – Indonesia:

“A new economic partnership initiative with Indonesia would help spur growth and strengthen market institutions in the world’s largest Muslim country.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/bba416b9-372d-4c2e-ac02-866a37db0c86.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: See the note directly above. In 2003, Congress passed and the President signed S. 1417 (108th Congress): A bill to implement the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement. CBO determined, “The bill would not have a significant effect on direct spending or spending subject to appropriation.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=4448&type=1>

C. Employment Compensation:

“I’m willing to compensate [older workers who lose their jobs and have to take lower-paying work] for the difference [in salary].”

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/article/20080111/NATION/115148281/1002>

Cost: Unknown.

Education, Science, and Research: \$1.8 billion

A. Education Accountability and Competition:

“No one should have to wait until they are laid off to build a better life. We can start right now by improving the accountability of public education at the primary and secondary level[s] ... and helping provide parents with choices for their children’s education.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/32676e3b-4492-4fc4-b0e9-e01efe5ccebe.htm>

Cost: \$1.8 billion (\$5.4 billion over three years).

Source: Senator McCain has not sponsored or cosponsored any bills related to this since the 106th Congress when he introduced S. 1512: A bill to provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged children, and for other purposes. The bill provides \$1.8 billion a year over three years for states to award scholarships that “may be redeemed for elementary or secondary education for the children at any of a broad variety of public and private schools, including religious schools.” The bill also would have eliminated authority to use sugar as collateral for loans and it also would have eliminated the sugar price support and production adjustment programs for sugarcane and sugar beets. These reforms would have provided outlay savings to partially offset the costs of the scholarship program.

Energy, Environment, and Agriculture: \$1 million

A. Alcohol Fuels Development:

“Alcohol fuels made from corn, sugar, switch grass and many other sources, fuel cells, biodiesel derived from waste products, natural gas, and other technologies are all promising and available alternatives to oil. I won’t support subsidizing every alternative or tariffs that restrict the healthy competition that stimulates innovation and lower costs. But I’ll encourage the development of infrastructure and market growth necessary for these products to compete, and let consumers choose the winners. I’ve never known an American entrepreneur worthy of the name who wouldn’t rather compete for sales than subsidies.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

B. Electric Battery Development:

“With some of the savings from cutting subsidies for industries that can stand on their own, we can establish a national challenge to improve the cost, range, size, and weight of electric batteries for automobiles. ... Affordable battery-powered vehicles that can meet average commuter needs could help us cut oil imports in half.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: \$1 million (\$5 million over five years).

Source: Although Senator McCain was not a sponsor of the underlying legislation, a related provision was included within S. 357 (110th Congress): A bill to improve passenger automobile fuel economy and safety, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and for other purposes.

CBO has a cost estimate for the battery development provision in the bill: “The bill would require DOT [the Department of Transportation] to administer a grant program to support research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of electric battery technologies and to establish a council of industry advisors. Under current law, DOE [the Department of Energy] administers a similar program that costs about \$10 million annually. CBO expects that the grants authorized in the bill would likely augment the program as administered by DOE. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that the grant program would cost \$1 million annually.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/81xx/doc8185/s357.pdf>

C. Flexible-Fuel Vehicles:

“Flexible-fuel vehicles aren’t futuristic pie in the sky. ... We can provide fuel options and improve the fuel efficiency of our vehicle fleet by making them out of high tech materials that improve their strength and safety.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unclear if Senator McCain would enforce this policy through the use of federal regulatory powers or through incentives that may or may not affect outlays.

D. Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

“This is why I have joined with Joe Lieberman to pursue a market-based, cap-and-trade system that will bolster our economic competitiveness and achieve appropriate limits on greenhouse gas emissions as efficiently and effectively as possible without harming our economy.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of S. 280 (110th Congress), which creates a cap-and-trade system of emission allowances. The bill establishes the Climate Change Credit Corporation (CCCC) that will administer the program. Before 2012, the CCCC will hold an auction of tradable emissions allowances. The proceeds of the auction will be used to administer the program, as well as support other programs that are established in the bill. According to CBO, “...U.S. entities released roughly 7 billion metric tons of greenhouse gases (measured in carbon dioxide equivalents) in 2004. Valued at \$7 per ton (the safety-valve price used in the National Commission on Energy Policy report *Ending the Energy Stalemate: A Bipartisan Strategy for Meeting America’s Energy Challenges*), the value of those emissions would be \$49 billion.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=7068>

Note: It is unknown how much of these receipts would be directed into new spending under the program; an official cost estimate is unavailable. CBO also expressed uncertainty about the budget effects of this system in comments it provided for a white paper released by Senators Pete Domenici and Jeff Bingaman, *Design Elements of a Mandatory Market-Based Greenhouse Gas Regulatory System*.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=7068&type=1>

E. Nuclear Energy Development:

“We have in use today a zero[-]emission energy that could provide electricity for millions more homes and businesses than it currently does. Yet it has been over [25] years since a nuclear power plant has been constructed. The barriers to nuclear energy are political [-] not technological. We’ve let the fears of [30] years ago, and an endless political squabble over the storage of nuclear spent fuel make it virtually impossible to build a single new plant that produces a form of energy that is safe and non-polluting. ... If France can produce 80 [percent] of its electricity with nuclear power, why can’t we? ...

Let’s provide for safe storage of spent nuclear fuel, and give host states or localities a proprietary interest so when advanced recycling technologies turn used fuel into a valuable commodity, the public will share in its economic benefits.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unknown how Senator McCain would provide for safe storage of nuclear fuel. In 2003, S. 14 (108th Congress) contained a provision to furnish federal loan guarantees for the construction of the next generation of nuclear power plants. CBO estimated “that the net present value of amounts recovered by the government on its loan guarantee from continued plant operations following a default and the project’s technical and regulatory risk would result in a subsidy cost of 30 percent[,] or about \$375 million over the 2011-2013 period.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/42xx/doc4206/s14.pdf>

Note: H.R. 2764, the Consolidated Appropriations Act (passed into law in the 110th Congress) contained \$20.5 billion in loan guarantees for the nuclear industry for nuclear power facilities.

http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/industries/industrials/article/usec-statement-loan-guarantees-nuclear-power-industry_419253_6.html

F. Smart Grid Development:

“Energy efficiency by using improved technology and practicing sensible habits in our homes, businesses, and automobiles is a big part of the answer, and is something we can achieve right now. And new advances will make conservation an ever more important part of the solution. Improved light bulbs can use much less energy; smart grid technology can help homeowners and businesses lower their energy use, and breakthroughs in high[-]tech materials can greatly improve fuel efficiency in the transportation sector.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

G. Technology Partnerships:

“I want to spend less money on government bureaucracies, and, where the private sector isn’t moving out of regulatory fear, to form the partnerships necessary to build demonstration models of promising new technologies such as advanced nuclear power plants, coal gasification, carbon capture and storage, and renewable power so we can take maximum advantage of our most abundant resources. And I’ll make it a national mission to develop a catalyst capable of breaking down carbon dioxide into useful chemical building blocks, and rendering it a new source of revenue and opportunity.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/informing/news/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Although Senator McCain was not a sponsor of this legislation, a model for the approach he described was proposed in S. 517 (107th Congress): A bill to authorize funding the Department of Energy to enhance its mission areas through technology transfer and partnerships. This bill was sponsored by two Democrats

and two Republicans. At the time, CBO estimated it would cost \$55 million over five years.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/28xx/doc2858/S517.pdf>

H. Utility and Automaker Partnerships:

“I’ll work to promote real partnerships between utilities and automakers to accelerate the deployment of plug-in hybrids.”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/13bc1d97-4ca5-49dd-9805-1297872571ed.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: It is unclear whether this would be achieved by a tax credit or by federal grants. An example of the latter is contained in a CBO estimate for H.R. 5656 (109th Congress): A bill to provide for federal energy research, development, demonstration, and commercial application activities, and for other purposes, includes \$136 million (\$1.3 billion over five years) for plug-in hybrid vehicle technology development.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/73xx/doc7391/hr5656.pdf>

Health Care: \$1.657 billion

A. Association Health Care Plans:

“[My plan] promotes robust health care markets by, among other things, allowing families to purchase insurance ... through any willing provider such as an association or a church.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07ff1.htm>

Cost: \$6 million (\$31 million over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 525 (109th Congress): A bill to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small businesses with respect to medical care for their employees.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/62xx/doc6265/hr525.pdf>

B. Community Health Centers:

“Community health centers need to be expanded.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/07b94e42-9466-4c24-8bc0-68a7c83d960d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Senator McCain has not sponsored any general legislation in the last four Congresses whose provisions might refer to “Community Health Centers.” The

most recent Senate proposal to expand Community Health Centers that has a CBO estimate is S. 3771, the Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006 (109th Congress), which would cost \$3.9 billion over five years.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/75xx/doc7592/s3771.pdf>

C. Disease Prevention:

“We must make fundamental reforms to our health care system that benefit hard-working American families. ...

To ease the burden placed on businesses and individuals, we must open up the avenues of competition, improve the quality of care and put greater emphasis on disease prevention.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/26d10a09-714f-4012-b0d9-6f8d8ba0ca11.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Source: Senator McCain is a sponsor of related legislation, S. 2115 (109th Congress): A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve provisions relating to Parkinson’s disease research. A cost estimate is unavailable.

D. Drug Reimportation:

“My plan ... permits the safe reimportation of drugs to keep competition vigorous.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: -\$540 million (savings) (-\$2.7 billion over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 380 (110th Congress): A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the importation of prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/87xx/doc8729/hr380Ltr.pdf>

E. Generic Drugs:

“My plan harnesses market competition to lower pharmaceutical costs by fostering a more efficient process for bringing cheaper generic drugs to consumers sooner ...”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: Senator McCain was a sponsor of S. 812 (107th Congress): A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide greater access to affordable pharmaceuticals. Title I of the legislation would revise provisions concerning the timing of generic drug availability. No cost estimate is available.

F. Health Care Competition Across State Lines:

“[My plan] promotes robust health care markets by, among other things, allowing families to purchase insurance across state lines ...”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: \$56 million (\$280 million over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 2355, the Health Care Choice Act of 2005 (109th Congress): A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for cooperative governing of individual health insurance coverage offered in interstate commerce. This bill was reintroduced in the 110th Congress in the form of H.R. 4460.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/66xx/doc6639/hr2355.pdf>

G. Health Insurance Portability:

“John McCain believes that insurance reforms should increase the variety and affordability of insurance coverage available to American families by fostering competition and innovation. ... Insurance should be innovative, moving from job to home, job to job, and providing multi-year coverage.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/19ba2f1c-c03f-4ac2-8cd5-5cf2edb527cf.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

H. Increase the State Children’s Health Insurance Program Health (SCHIP) Enrollment of Those Currently Eligible:

“I think that we can make health care affordable and available without a mandate. Million[s of] children that haven’t taken advantage of the SCHIP ... because they just haven’t signed up.

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/07b94e42-9466-4c24-8bc0-68a7c83d960d.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: In the past, Senator McCain has supported the extension of the availability of allotments beyond the original time frame (S. 312, 108th Congress) and has sponsored S. 556, which would have ended cost sharing under the SCHIP and Medicaid programs for Indians. According to CBO, “The provisions also would require that payments by Medicaid and SCHIP for services provided directly by those programs could not be reduced by the amount of cost sharing that Indians otherwise would pay.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/60xx/doc6026/s556.pdf>

I. Medical Tort Reform:

“[My plan] focuses on tort reform to stop frivolous lawsuits which enrich trial lawyers while raising health costs for everyone else.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: -\$890 million (savings) (-\$4.452 billion over five years).

Source: CBO cost estimate for H.R. 5 (109th Congress): A bill to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system.

The cost estimate is from the 108th Congress. Although the bill was reintroduced and passed by the House in the 109th Congress, CBO did not update its estimate. It was also reintroduced in the 110th Congress as H.R. 2580 and S. 243, which is not cosponsored by Senator McCain.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/40xx/doc4091/hr5.pdf>

Note: Senator McCain has not sponsored a piece of legislation including the words “frivolous lawsuits” or “tort” relating to general medical practice in the last five Congresses.

J. Online Health Records:

“We need to do a whole lot of things ... including putting health care records online ...”

<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/2e4d3703-851b-46b3-abbf-2fe38cdce592.htm>

Cost: \$169 million (first-year cost).

Source: President Bush offered a similar proposal in his 2007 State of the Union Address.

<http://www.ntu.org/main/page.php?PageID=115>

K. Refundable Health Insurance Tax Credit:

“[My plan] provides all individuals with a refundable tax credit of \$2,500 and families with a \$5,000 credit toward the purchase of health insurance, and rewards innovative insurance by allowing any money remaining to be deposited in tax-free Health Savings Accounts.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/News/PressReleases/d29b14ef-f923-448b-bc33-db51cf07fff1.htm>

Cost: \$2.856 billion (\$14.28 billion over five years).

Source: In his FY 2008 Budget, President Bush offered a similar health insurance tax credit proposal that had a refundable component. An estimate is available in Table S-5 of the *Budget of the United States Government* under “Outlay Effects of Tax Proposals.”

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2008/pdf/budget/tables.pdf>

L. Risk Adjustment Bonuses for Medicaid:

“John McCain believes that insurance reforms should ... require any state receiving Medicaid to develop a financial ‘risk adjustment’ bonus to high-cost and low-income families to supplement tax credits and Medicaid funds.

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/19ba2f1c-c03f-4ac2-8cd5-5cf2edb527cf.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Note: CBO determined the Medicare Advantage Risk Adjustment included in the 2005’s Deficit Reduction Act (S. 1932) would save \$1.4 billion in the first year. A cost estimate for Medicaid “risk adjustment” bonuses is unavailable.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/70xx/doc7028/s1932conf.pdf>

Homeland Security and Law Enforcement: \$1.5 billion

A. Border Security:

“As President, I will secure the border. I will restore the trust Americans should have in the basic competency of their government.”

Cost: \$1.5 billion (\$3 billion over two years).

Source: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of related legislation, S. 2348 (110th Congress): A bill to ensure control over the United States border and to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws. The text appropriates \$3 billion for two years.

Note: In the spring of 2007, while he was a declared candidate for the Republican nomination, Senator McCain was also an advocate of comprehensive immigration and border security reform efforts in Congress. An amendment he sponsored with Senator Kennedy, S.A. 1150 to S. 1348, would have increased legal immigration levels and provided for increased border security enforcement initiatives. CBO estimated this would increase spending by \$29.5 billion over five years. However, Senator McCain has not explicitly articulated that he would work to pass the initiatives in S.A. 1150 as President.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdoc.cfm?index=8179&type=1>

If Senator McCain is advocating constructing of a border fence as reported by the *Keene Sentinel*, that could have an additional cost which will depend on the length of additional wall (approximately \$3 million/mile according to CBO), and how much new technology is used (the Department of Homeland Security estimates the virtual wall will cost \$7.6 billion over four years). Currently, \$1.225 billion is appropriated for border security to complete 670 miles of fence.

<http://www.sentinelsource.com/print.asp?ArticleID=172087&SectionID=31&SubSectionID=454>

http://www.nytimes.com/cq/2007/07/11/cq_3057.html

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,129294/article.html>

B. Intelligence Reform:

“As President, John McCain will ensure that America has the quality intelligence necessary to uncover plots before they take root, the resources to protect critical infrastructure and our borders against attack”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/054184f4-6b51-40dd-8964-54fcf66a1e68.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

National Defense: \$1.917 billion

A. Increased Troop Levels:

“John McCain thinks it is especially important to increase the size of the Army and Marine Corps to defend against the threats we face today.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/054184f4-6b51-40dd-8964-54fcf66a1e68.htm>

Cost: Unknown.

Source: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of S. 1547 whose companion, H.R. 1584 currently awaits the president’s signature and, as signed, would not include new spending. Current end strength levels were set in Section 401 of H.R. 5122 (109th Congress, Public Law No. 109-364).

Note: In general, each incremental increase of 10,000 troops costs \$1.2 billion.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/article/2006/12/19/AR2006121900880.html>

B. Theater and National Missile Defense:

“John McCain strongly supports the development and deployment of theater and national missile defenses.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/054184f4-6b51-40dd-8964-54fcf66a1e68.htm>

Cost: \$1.917 billion (\$9.583 billion over five years).

Source: CBO letter to Representative Ellen Tauscher: “In response to your request of April 20, 2007, the Congressional Budget Office has completed a preliminary assessment of the cost of the Missile Defense Agency’s and Air Force’s plans for developing, fielding, and operating a fleet of airborne lasers (ABL) as part of the ballistic missile defense system.”

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/87xx/doc8722/05-09-ABL-Estimate.pdf>

Veterans: \$60 million

A. Access to Health Care:

“John McCain believes that all military retirees, even if they are not eligible for VA health care, should be provided with meaningful access to health care. The federal government should ease the burden of health care costs on those people who have dedicated their careers to protecting our freedom.”

<http://www.exploremccain.com/Informing/Issues/9cb5d2aa-f237-464e-9cdf-a5ad32771b9f.htm>

Cost: \$60 million (\$300 million over five years).

Source: Senator McCain is a cosponsor of S. 1606 (110th Congress), the Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act: A bill to provide for the establishment of a comprehensive policy on the care and management of wounded warriors in order to facilitate and enhance their care, rehabilitation, physical evaluation, transition from care by the Department of Defense to care by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and transition from military service to civilian life, and for other purposes. While a cost estimate is unavailable for S. 1606, CBO scored a related bill in the House, H.R. 1538 (110th Congress), the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act: A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, and for other purposes.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/79xx/doc7905/hr1538.pdf>

Fiscal Quotes

“We became paralyzed by the demands of competing special interests and the narrow, selfish partisanship of both parties has crippled our efforts to reform government and face squarely the problems the people expect us to fix. We need to reform and modernize our

transportation system, our energy use, our public education; our Tax Code; our health care system; our telecommunications laws; the way we assist displaced workers; respond to emergencies; even the way we defend our national security. We need to balance the federal budget and stop spending money on things that are not the business of government. We need to repair Social Security and Medicare now, not when they're completely insolvent and some unluckier generation of Americans is stuck with the problem. None of these daunting challenges can be addressed without genuine and lasting reform. It is essential to our security and our continued economic vitality. And beyond providing more choices in the marketplace; or a secure old age; or enhanced security; reforming government so that it meets real needs with basic competence will help restore America's pride in the way we govern ourselves, and remind us all, those of us lucky enough to serve and those who elect us, what a special thing it is to be an American.”
<http://www.johnmccain.com/Informing/News/Speeches/48474414-5864-4de8-921e-d2d51de82bdd.htm>