

# RNC Research BRIEFING

## Razorback Revisionist

### *Mark Pryor May Want To Examine His Own Record Of Siding With Obama And Fellow Democrats Over Arkansans*

**Yesterday, Sen. Mark Pryor's Campaign Claimed Republicans Will Have Trouble Defending Their Records To Arkansans.** "Democrats on Wednesday were quick to swing back. ... 'When the people of our state review Tom Cotton's record, they won't like what they see.'" (Katie Glueck, "Arkansas' Tom Cotton To Run For U.S. Senate," [Politico](#), 7/31/13)

#### **IT'S PRYOR WHO NEEDS TO WORRY ABOUT ARKANSANS EXAMINING HIS RECORD OF SIDING WITH OBAMA AND FELLOW DEMOCRATS**

#### *Pryor: "Let's Go Out And Work As Hard As We Possibly Can For Barack Obama"*

**Pryor Campaigned For Obama In 2008, Saying: "Barack Obama Has The Leadership, He Has The Vision, He Has The Hope That This Country Needs Right Now."** (Mark Pryor, [Remarks At Little Rock, AR Obama Rally](#), 10/24/08)

- **Pryor: "Let's Go Out And Work As Hard As We Possibly Can For Barack Obama."** (Mark Pryor, [Remarks At Little Rock, AR Obama Rally](#), 10/24/08)

**Pryor Praised Obama In 2009, Saying "He Is Exactly What We Need Right Now."** "We have a President, some fault him because they say he is idealistic. They fault him sometimes because he believes in our democracy, he believes in our people. He knows that we can tackle these problems and we can solve these problems. And I don't fault him for that. I think he's showing great leadership and let's give President Obama a hand. I think he's exactly what we need right now." (Senator Mark Pryor, [Remarks At Democratic Party Of Arkansas Jefferson Jackson Dinner](#), 7/24/09)

- **Pryor: "I Think He's Showing Great Leadership."** (Senator Mark Pryor, [Remarks At Democratic Party Of Arkansas Jefferson Jackson Dinner](#), 7/24/09)

**Pryor Said In 2011 That He Thought Obama Deserved Another Four Years In Office.** "Pryor said he thought Obama deserved another four years. 'I think that President Obama came in [during] an incredibly difficult time, a whole set of circumstances that made his presidency one of the most difficult in American history,' Pryor said." (Charlie Frago, "Partisan 'Games' Miring Debt-Cap Deal, Pryor Says," [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#), 6/3/11)

**According To *Congressional Quarterly*, Pryor Voted With Obama 95 Percent Of The Time In 2011 And 91 Percent Of The Time In 2012.** "According to CQ Roll Call Vote Studies, in 2011, Pryor voted 95

percent of the time with the president in votes where Obama clearly indicated his preference. In 2012, that number fell to 91 percent.” (Joshua Miller, “Senate Conservatives Action Launches Radio Ad Linking Pryor To Obama,” [Roll Call](#), 3/14/13)

### ***Pryor Is A Proud Supporter Of ObamaCare***

**Pryor Was The Deciding Vote For ObamaCare.** (H.R. 3590, [Roll Call Vote #396](#), Adopted 60-39: R 0-39; D 60-0, 12/24/09, Pryor Voted Yea)

- **Pryor Voted Against Repealing ObamaCare.** (S.Amdt.202 to S.Con.Res. 8, [Roll Call Vote #51](#), Rejected 45-54; R 45-0; D 0-54, 3/22/13, Pryor Voted Nay)

**In A June 2013 Interview, Pryor Doubled Down On His Support For Obamacare, Saying: “I Think It Was The Right Vote, I Think It Was Good For Arkansas.”** “HOST: ‘Do you still stand by your vote for federal health care? What do you tell, what is your message to voters as to why that was the right vote?’ PRYOR: ‘I do. I think it was the right vote, I think it was good for Arkansas.’” (Interview With Senator Mark Pryor, [KARK-TV](#), 6/2/13)

**College Professors In Arkansas Will Have Their Hours Cut Because Of ObamaCare.** ANCHOR: “Beginning this fall, Pulaski Tech will limit the amount of courses professors are able to teach. KARK 4’s Joceyln Tovar says this change in turn will limit the benefits available to them.” ... TOVAR: ““Human resource officials for the college say that changes in benefits because of the ObamaCare law require part time employees who are working 30 hours to be considered full time, and therefore require benefits, benefits the school says are just too much strain on their shoestring budget. ” ([KARK 4](#), 4/4/13)

**JK North America-Sun Ergoline, A Jonesboro -Based Tanning Bed Manufacturer, Has Already Laid Off Workers, And Said It Would Cut Hours For Others Because Of ObamaCare’s Tanning Tax.** “A 10 percent federal sales tax on the tanning-bed industry designed to help pay for the recently passed healthcare legislation has already cost Arkansas jobs, officials with country’s leading tanning-bed manufacturer said Friday. JK North America-Sun Ergoline, based in Jonesboro, laid off seven employees in March and plans to cut the hours of another 36 workers in half next month, said Jerry Deveney, the company’s executive director of sales.” (Charlie Frago, “Jonesboro Tanning-Bed Maker Says Coming 10% Tax A Job Killer,” [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#), 3/27/10)

**The Arkansas Medical Society Said ObamaCare’s Cuts To Medicare And Medicaid Would Hurt State’s Ability To Recruit Doctors, Harm Arkansans’ Access To Care.** “WHAT WE OPPOSE... Medicare and Medicaid Cuts -- Arkansas has the lowest Medicare reimbursement in the nation. This fact has made it increasingly difficult to recruit physicians to our state and has negatively impacted access to care. Further cuts in Medicare or Medicaid would have a devastating impact on Arkansas’ most vulnerable citizens.” (Arkansas Medical Society, “Priorities For Health System Reform,” Press Release, Accessed 12/9/09)

- **“Arkansas’ Surgeon General Told Lawmakers Wednesday That He’s Worried The State Won’t Have Enough Medical Providers To Care For The Thousands Of Newly Insured Covered Under The Federal Health Care Overhaul.”** (“Arkansas Needs More Doctors, State Surgeon General Says,” [Arkansas Democrat Gazette](#), 7/22/10)

**ObamaCare Is A Government Takeover Of Health Care With \$819.3 Billion In Job-Killing Taxes On Small Businesses, Investments And Innovation.** (“Updated Estimates For The Insurance Coverage Provisions Of The Affordable Care Act,” [Congressional Budget Office](#), 3/12; “Estimated Revenue Effects Of A Proposal To Repeal Certain Tax Provisions Contained In The ‘Affordable Care Act,’” [Joint Committee On Taxation](#), 6/15/12; Douglas W. Elmendorf, Director Of The Congressional Budget Office, [Letter To Chairman Paul Ryan](#), 7/30/13)

### ***Pryor Supports Job-Killing Climate Regulations***

**Pryor Voted In Favor Of Establishing A Carbon Cap And Trade System.** (S.Amdt. 4825 To S. 3036, [Roll Call #145](#),

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Rejected 48-36: R 6-32; D 42-4; 6/6/08, Pryor Voted Yea)

**According To The EPA, The Bill Pryor Voted For Would Have Cut GDP By \$1-\$2.8 Trillion By 2050.** “Under S.2191, GDP is modeled to be between 0.9% (\$238 billion) and 3.8% (\$983 billion) lower in 2030 and between 2.4% (\$1,012 billion) and 6.9% (\$2,856 billion) lower in 2050 than in the Reference Scenario. (“EPA Analysis of the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008,” [Environmental Protection Agency](#), 3/14/08)

- **Electricity Prices Would Have Spiked 44% By 2030 And 26% By 2050.** “Electricity prices are projected to increase 44% in 2030 and 26% in 2050, assuming the cost of allowances can partially be passed on to consumers (as is the case in a full auction). (“EPA Analysis of the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008,” [Environmental Protection Agency](#), 3/14/08)

**Pryor Voted Against Stripping The EPA Of Its Authority To Regulate Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Allowing Obama’s Job Killing Regulations To Move Forward.** (S.Amdt. 928 To S.Amdt. 927 To H.R. 674, [Roll Call Vote #202](#), Rejected 40-56: R 40-4; D 0-52, 11/10/11, Pryor Voted Nay)

- **A Study By The American Action Forum Found That Obama’s Latest Climate Plan “Will Affect More Than 37,000 Employees And Regulate A Variety Of Industries.”** “Today, President Obama will call for greenhouse gas (GHG) limits on existing stationary sources. Examining the largest sources in the U.S., the American Action Forum (AAF) estimates such a proposal will affect more than 37,000 employees and regulate a variety of industries.” (“[Implications Of Regulating Existing Greenhouse Gas Sources](#),” American Action Forum 6/24/13)

**Pryor Voted To Force Electric Utilities To Generate A Set Percentage Of Their Electricity From More Expensive Renewable Sources.** (S.Amdt. 791 To H.R. 6, [Roll Call #141](#), Adopted 52-48: R 9-46; D 43-2, 6/16/05, Pryor Voted Yea)

**Pryor Voted Repeatedly Against Opening The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) To Oil Drilling.** (S.Amdt. 3128 To S.Con.Res. 83, [Roll Call Vote #72](#), Adopted 51-49: R 47-7; D 4-42, 3/16/06, Pryor Voted Nay; S. Con Res. 74, [Roll Call Vote #365](#), Adopted 48-45: R 7-44; D 41-1, 12/21/05, Pryor Voted Nay; S.Amdt. 2358 To S. 1932, [Roll Call Vote #288](#), Rejected 48-51: R 6-48; D 42-3, 11/3/05, Pryor Voted Yea)

***Pryor Called A Balanced Budget Amendment “Wrong,” But Has A History Of Supporting Earmarks And Obama’s Failed Stimulus***

**Pryor Voted Twice Against A Balanced Budget Amendment To The Constitution.** (S.J.Res. 24, [Roll Call Vote #228](#), Rejected 21-79: R 1-46; D 20-33, 12/14/11, Pryor Voted Nay; S.J.Res. 10, [Roll Call Vote #229](#), Rejected 47-53: R 47-0; D 53-0, 12/14/11, Pryor Voted Nay)

- **Pryor Called The Balanced Budget Amendment “Wrong.”** “As H.L. Mencken once said, ‘For every complex problem there is a solution which is simple, clean, and wrong.’ This quote describes the balanced budget amendment.” (Senator Mark Pryor, “Statement by Senator Mark Pryor On the Balanced Budget Amendment.” [Press Release](#), 12/14/11)

**Pryor Voted Against A Moratorium On Wasteful Earmarks In 2008 And 2010 And Voted Against A Permanent Ban On Earmarks In 2012.** (S.Amdt. 4347 to S.Con.Res. 70, [Roll Call Vote #75](#), Rejected 29-71: R 23-24; D 6-47, 3/13/08, Pryor Voted Nay; S.Amdt. 4697 To S. 510, [Roll Call Vote #255](#), Rejected 39-56: R 32-8; D 7-48, 11/30/10, Pryor Voted Nay; S.Amdt. 1472 To S.Amdt.1470 To S. 2038, [Roll Call Vote #8](#), Rejected 40-59: R 33-13; D 7-46, 2/2/12, Pryor Voted Nay)

- **Pryor Requested \$575 Million In Earmarks From FY 2008 To FY 2010.** ([Legistorm Earmarks Database](#), Accessed 7/31/13)

**Pryor Voted For Obama’s Wasteful \$830 Billion Stimulus Bill.** (H.R. 1, [Roll Call Vote #64](#), Adopted 60-38: R 3-38; D 57-0, 2/13/09, Pryor Voted Yea)

- **Pryor: “The Recovery Package...Will Provide The Jolt Our Economy Needs Right Now.”** (Senator Mark Pryor, “Statement By Senator Mark Pryor On Committee Passage Of The Economic Recovery Plan,” Press Release, 1/27/09)

***Pryor Stands Up For Big Labor, Not Arkansas Workers***

**Pryor Has Received Over \$650,000 From Labor Union PACs Over His Career.** ([Center For Responsive Politics](#), Accessed 6/26/13)

**Pryor Voted To Revoke Arkansas Workers’ Right To A Secret Ballot In Union Elections.** (H.R. 800, [Roll Call Vote #227](#), Rejected 51-48: R 0-48; D 51-0, 6/26/07, Pryor Voted Yea)

- **Pryor Co-Sponsored The Employee Free Choice Act In 2005.** ([S. 842](#), Introduced 4/19/05)

**Pryor Voted To Kill An Amendment To Extend “Right To Work” To Workers Nationwide.** (S.Amdt. 31 To S. 1818, [Roll Call Vote #11](#), Tabled 66-31: R 9-31; D 57-0, 1/22/09, Pryor Voted Yea)

**Pryor Voted Twice To Force State And Local Governments To Collectively Bargain With Public Safety Employee Unions.** (S. 3991, [Roll Call Vote #266](#), Rejected 55-43: R 0-40; D 55-3, 12/8/10, Pryor Voted Yea; H.R. 980, [Roll Call Vote #126](#), Adopted 69-29: R 18-29; D 51-0, 5/13/08, Pryor Voted Yea)

**Pryor Voted Along Party Lines To Uphold NLRB Regulations Allowing Ambush Union Elections.** (S.J. Res. 36, [Roll Call Vote #36](#), Rejected 45-54: R 45-1; D 53-0, 4/24/12, Pryor Voted Nay)