

White House Candidates on the Issues: Side-by-Side Comparison

Prepared by

The Franklin Partnership, LLC

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About The Franklin Partnership

- Bi-partisan Washington, D.C.-based government relations firm
- Provide direct lobbying services on Capitol Hill, White House, Federal Agencies
- Strategic consulting on impact of government actions, politics on clients
- Speak to business, associations about impact of Washington on their operations
- Supply chain risk analysis
- Clients include:
 - Manufacturing companies and associations
 - Defense manufacturers
 - Hospitals, municipalities
 - Consulting, advisory groups



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Overview and Disclaimers

The following slides represent an assessment of the possible affect of a second Trump term or a Biden administration on federal trade, tax, HR, environmental, and job training policy. The content is based on review of current and previous policy statements made publicly, on the extensive track records of both candidates on these issues, and on discussions with others in Washington and some close to the campaigns and current federal officeholders.

Promises made on the campaign trail do not always translate into policy. This is especially the case for tax, health care, infrastructure and other policy changes that would require Congress to pass bills in both the House and Senate. Senate Republicans maintaining control in the upper chamber versus Democrats taking power is a critical variable especially in a Biden administration that will alter outcomes.

The following is intended to help provide insight into possible outcomes and assist with anticipating different scenarios.

Trump vs. Biden: Environmental Regulations

Please note many environmental regulations are subject to court review, often reversal

Issue	Trump Administration II	Biden Administration
Expedite Environmental Review Process for Infrastructure Projects – NEPA	Continue expedited process to limit time to review projects prior to approval	Maintain lengthier review with additional factors for consideration
Cost-Benefit Analysis	Limit non-economic factors during rulemaking	Include social cost of carbon, public health impact in rulemaking
Ground Level Ozone – NAAQS	Maintain current 70ppb levels	Possibly lower to 65ppb
Particulate Matter 2.5 Level – NAAQS	Maintain current levels	Lower permissible 8 hour limit
Auto emissions	1.5% annual increase	Up to 5% annual increase; State rights
Heavy Duty Truck Emissions – NOx	Tighter standards expected	Likely aligns with California standards
Power Plant Regulations	Regulate “inside-the-fenceline”	Revert to Obama secondary impact policy
Scientific Review Panels	Continue limiting studies, make reviews public	Rely on science panels; Results, reviewers often not fully made public
Waters of the U.S.	Continue to limit EPA jurisdiction	Revert to Obama policy, expand EPA power

Trump vs. Biden: Human Resources Policy

Issue	Trump Administration II	Biden Administration
Federal Minimum Wage	Slight increase possible	Increase possible depending on Congress
Increase Overtime Threshold	No change for 2-3 years	Regular increases through regulatory changes
FMLA Expansion of Paid Leave	Some expansion likely	Yes for employee and dependents
EEOC Reporting	Fights Court Orders to release detailed EEOC data	Seeks to expand data reported, released
Union organizing votes	Restrictions expand	Revert to Obama-era policies – short term voting, harder to decertify, easier to organize
Affordable Care Act	Focus on Rx pricing	Revert to original Obamacare, expand coverage options, lower Rx pricing
Marijuana Legalization	No new guidance for employers, need DoJ to go along	Indicated no change for now, less federal enforcement
OSHA Inspections	Continue to increase, try to cooperate with businesses	Emphasis returns to pre-COVID PPE (hearing, inhalation, heat exposure requirements)
State Regulations	Significantly Accelerate on their own	Coordinate with federal government

Trump vs. Biden: Job Training

Note: Significant policy changes require Congress to pass a bill with 60 Senate votes

Issue	Trump Administration II	Biden Administration
Higher Education Act	Passes Congress if no vote in 2020	Passes Congress if no vote in 2020
National Apprenticeship Act	Battle with Congress over IRAPs	Bill passes by end of 2022
Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAP)	Continue Standards Recognition Entity (SRE) certifications	Pause/cancel IRAP program or make significant changes to audit standards
Job Training Funding/Grants	President's Budget will continue to cut funding but will sign increased spending bills	Increased funding for MEPs, TAA, WIOA, CTE, minority/women/youth training grants; focus on unions
College Transparency Data	Continue to publish data	More interested in access to college
Community Colleges	Continue to emphasize public-private partnerships	Increased role for community colleges in training and preparing students for work
Industry Partnerships	Continue to emphasize public-private partnerships	Emphasize industry, association should partner with unions
Work-based Learning	Expand opportunities	Include livable wage requirement
K-12 Curriculum	Continue business involvement	Focus on broadband access/learning tools

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