A1P: AT A GLANCE

Washington is Broken and Only a Strong Congress Can Fix It

• The Founders made Congress the “First Branch” of the federal government – the most powerful and most accountable.
• Congress today avoids its responsibility, ceding legislative power to the Executive Branch, and the American people are suffering for it – through overreach, unaccountability, political dysfunction, and public distrust.
• The Constitution still gives Congress all its powers; it’s up to Congress to step up and start using them again. That’s what A1P was formed to do.

A1P is Working to Make Congress Live Up to Its Responsibilities

• When Congress is in charge of making the law, the American people are in charge of Washington. That was the Founders’ vision, and that system works for the American people.
• But all that hard work and accountability are inconvenient for the politicians.
• So they have upended the system, making Congress the back-seat drivers of our government. Congress complains and criticizes, but we don’t actually take the wheel and the responsibility.
• A1P will develop solutions to re-constitutionalize Washington and to force Congress to both do its job and accept the political consequences.

A1P will Focus on Four Key Priorities

• **Reclaiming Congress’s power of the purse**: fundamental reform of the budget process to end “all or nothing” bills; end accounting gimmicks; end “self-funding” agencies; make the budget mean what it says.
• **Reforming legislative “cliffs”**: end the risk of government shutdowns and defaults and end Congress’s habit of voting on thousand-page bills no one has read, without debate or amendment.
• **Reclaiming congressional authority over regulations and regulators**: require congressional authorization of total regulatory costs and new major rules.
• **Reforming executive discretion**: rein in the regulatory state, so it works for the American people and not the other way around.

“The Constitution promises Americans a government of, by, and for the people. A1P will force Congress to make good on that promise again.”