



ELECTION 2008:
John McCain (R) vs. Barack Obama (D)
 Candidate Comparison on Issues Important to the Industry

Issue	John McCain	Barack Obama
Taxes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates - Make Bush's 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent • AMT - Eliminate completely the alternative minimum tax • Estate Tax – 15 percent for estates valued at \$5 million or more, \$10 million for married couples • Corporate Rates – Lower the corporate rate from 35 to 25 percent • Cap Gains – Maintain the dividends and capital gains rate at 15 percent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates - Repeal Bush's 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for taxpayers making more than \$200,000 • AMT - Reform the alternative minimum tax by indexing for inflation • Estate Tax – 45 percent for estates worth \$3.5 million or more, \$7 million for married couples • Corporate Rates – Eliminate corporate loopholes and tax havens • Cap Gains – Raise the rate on dividends and capital gains from 15 percent to 25-28 percent
Labor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFCA - Opposed Employee Free Choice Act • Ledbetter Fair Pay Act – Did not vote, but indicated he would have opposed the bill • Paid Leave – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supported the Family Medical Leave Act in 1993 2. Co-sponsored the Family Friendly Workplace Act, which promoted compensatory time-off instead of paid overtime 3. Supports flexible work scheduling to help employees meet family needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EFCA - Voted for the Employee Free Choice Act • Ledbetter Fair Pay Act – Voted in favor of the Ledbetter Act • Paid Leave – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would require all employers to provide workers with seven paid sick days per year 2. Would expand the Family and Medical Leave Act to cover businesses with 25 or more employees (current law is 50 or more) 3. Would encourage all 50 states to adopt paid leave system by providing a \$1.5 billion fund to defer costs
Interchange Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not addressed interchange fees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not specifically address interchange fees, but supports a Credit Card Bill of Rights for consumers



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Healthcare Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax incentives to buy health insurance: \$2,500 tax credit for individuals, \$5,000 for couples • Repeal tax break for employees for employer-provided health care • Focus more on individual incentives to buy health insurance rather than maintaining health insurance provided by employers • Allow the option to purchase out-of-state insurance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve universal health insurance by 2012 • Require employers to provide health insurance for workers, help pay for coverage or give to a public health plan • Exempt small businesses and give them a tax cut for providing coverage • Require parents to insure their children • Extend parents' plans to children until age 25
Food Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would pressure China on food and product safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questioned whether the Department of Agriculture's recall of 143 million pounds of frozen beef from "downed" cattle was tough enough • Would hire additional federal food inspectors • Would provide greater protections against using contaminated foods in the Nat'l School Lunch Program