

Democrats stick to partisanship

USA TODAY

February 4, 2009 Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

Copyright 2009 Gannett Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Section: NEWS; Pg. 10A

Length: 350 words

Body

It appears that in meeting with Republicans, President Obama met with the wrong party on Capitol Hill last week. House Republicans rejected the stimulus proposal of the Democratic leadership, not the general plan described by the president. As the editorial "Old ways cloud the dawn of a new bipartisan era" states, "The Democratic majority refused to yield" (Our view, The tone in Washington debate, Friday).

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi also expressed **partisanship**, stating that "we won." Bipartisanship requires governing from the center and cannot be expected unless each party reaches out to the other with compromises. Obama will face challenges from the left wing of his party.

Also, Obama would be well advised to review the stimulus bill line by line. He could immediately identify those items not consistent with his objectives of creating jobs in quick, temporary and effective ways.

Donald L. Nordeen

Gaylord, Mich.

Immigration effect

While I appreciate the information regarding the Justice Department's report on the rise of gang-related crime in the USA, the article's emphasis on the correlation between gang activity and immigration seems unjustified and irresponsible ("FBI: Burgeoning gangs rival foreign drug cartels," News, Friday).

The article failed to mention that studies have indicated that over the past decade, violent crimes have decreased while immigration has increased. Focusing on a possible link between the rise of gang-related crime and immigration patterns seems premature and lacks the empirical data to indicate a definitive connection. Instead of providing inferences, let's just **stick** to the facts.

Douglas Miller

Louisville

Cut mail delivery

The postmaster general has suggested that mail delivery might be reduced from six days a week to five ("Post office asks to cut its six-day delivery," News, Thursday).

I have long said that, with the widespread use of e-mail, we should receive mail every other day, or three times per week. That way, the U.S. Postal Service could significantly cut the cost of mail carriers, equipment and fuel.

Bob Frick

Democrats stick to partisanship

Auburn Hills, Mich.

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Document-Type: DEBATE

Publication-Type: NEWSPAPER

Subject: IMMIGRATION (91%); GANGS (91%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); US CONGRESS (90%); US PRESIDENTS (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (89%); US ECONOMIC STIMULUS PLAN 2008-2009 (78%); LIBERALISM (74%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (73%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (72%); EMPLOYMENT GROWTH (68%); JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS (67%); CRIMINAL OFFENSES (67%); CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES CRIME (67%); CARTELS (51%)

Organization: US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (56%); FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (55%)

Industry: POSTAL SERVICE (61%)

Person: BARACK OBAMA (78%); NANCY PELOSI (58%)

Geographic: UNITED STATES (93%)

Load-Date: February 4, 2009