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*Bob Mathias
Chuck Wiggins
Cade Hunt*

IT IS WONDERFUL TO BE HERE IN THE CENTRAL VALLEY OF

CALIFORNIA. AS I LOOK ABOUT ME TODAY, I KNOW WHY IT'S CALLED THE

BIG VALLEY -- IT PRODUCES BIG CROPS, BIG YIELDS, BIG LIVESTOCK AND

TO SERVE ITS PEOPLE IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, IT PRODUCES

BIG MEN LIKE MY GOOD FRIEND BOB MATHIAS!

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *dy*

THERE IS NO SECRET WHY I AM HERE TODAY. I AM HERE

BECAUSE I NEED -- YOU NEED -- BOB MATHIAS BACK IN CONGRESS TO

REPRESENT THE PEOPLE OF FRESNO, KINGS AND TULARE (TOO-LARRY)

COUNTIES.

I HAVE TRAVELED EXTENSIVELY THROUGHOUT THE LAST FEW
WEEKS CANDIDLY ASKING THE AMERICAN VOTERS TO RETURN MEN LIKE
BOB MATHIAS TO THE CONGRESS. PEOPLE HAVE ASKED WHY.
LET ME TELL YOU THE ANSWER.

I'M HERE BECAUSE THE ISSUES ARE TOO IMPORTANT THIS YEAR
TO SIT ON THE SIDELINES.

THE STAKES ARE TOO HIGH TO LOSE THE BATTLE BY DEFAULT.

I HAVE ANOTHER ANSWER TO THOSE WHO ASK WHY I
CAMPAIGN. I DO IT BECAUSE THE PEOPLE OF FRESNO AND THE ^{17th} 17TH
DISTRICT DESERVE TO SEE THEIR PRESIDENT OUT SPEAKING HIS MIND AND
DEFENDING THE PROGRAMS AND POLICIES THAT MEAN SOMETHING TO HIM.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY ARE TOO IMPORTANT TO ME

TO SIT IN THE OVAL OFFICE IN MYSTIC SEANCE IN WASHINGTON.

THE COUNTRY REACHES OUT FAR BEYOND THE POTOMAC RIVER -- AND I

INTEND TO DO THE SAME.

I AM ALSO OUT HERE BECAUSE I AM CAMPAIGNING FOR THE
ELECTION OF A RESPONSIBLE CONGRESS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF
INFLATION AND TO KEEP OUR AMERICAN ECONOMY NUMBER ONE IN THE WORLD.

I NEED MEN LIKE BOB MATHIAS TO ENSURE THAT YOUR NEEDS
ARE MET BY BIG-ACTION INSTEAD OF BIG TALK.

FIRST, LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR CONGRESSMAN, A TOP
LAWMAKER WITH EIGHT YEARS OF ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING.

WHEN YOU RETURN BOB MATHIAS TO THE CONGRESS
NEXT TUESDAY, YOU WILL BE PUTTING HIM INTO THE SECOND-RANKING
POSITION ON THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE. I DON'T NEED TO SPELL
OUT WHAT THAT MEANS TO THIS AREA. IT MEANS THAT YOU WILL
HAVE A VOICE AT THE TOP INSTEAD OF INEXPERIENCE AT THE BOTTOM.

AND IT MEANS THAT DAY-IN AND DAY-OUT YOU WILL CONTINUE THE KIND
OF EXPERT SERVICE THAT ONLY A DEDICATED AND EXPERIENCED
CONGRESSMAN LIKE BOB MATHIAS CAN PROVIDE.

LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ELSE ABOUT BOB.

HE AND I SERVED IN THE CONGRESS TOGETHER FOR SEVEN YEARS

BEFORE I LEFT TO TAKE ANOTHER JOB. AS THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

OF THE HOUSE, I HELPED ~~GUIDE LEGISLATION THROUGH THE CONGRESS.~~

WHEN THE FARM BILL WAS COMING THROUGH, BOB WAS THERE ADVISING ME.

AND THAT HASN'T CHANGED -- NOW THAT I AM PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES, BOB MATHIAS IS STILL GOING TO BE CONSULTED BY
ME ON MAJOR DECISIONS REGARDING AMERICAN AGRICULTURE.

BOB, I KNOW YOU HAVE BEEN RUNNING A HARD CAMPAIGN,
AND I HOPE I DON'T REPEAT TOO MUCH OF WHAT YOU ARE SAYING. BUT I
WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYBODY APPRECIATES THE WORK YOU DO ON
BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE HERE.

BUT MOST OF ALL, BOB, I HOPE EVERYONE HERE KNOWS THAT
YOU HAVE BEEN BUSY IN WASHINGTON -- AND YOU HAVE EVEN BEEN BUSY
REPRESENTING OUR GOVERNMENT OVERSEAS. YOU HAVE BEEN BUSY WITH
TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS IN THE CONGRESS --
NOT ONLY THE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, BUT ALSO THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE.

AND TO HELP KEEP DOWN THE COST OF LIVING, YOU HAVE
BEEN VOTING TO TRIM THE FAT OFF THE FEDERAL BUDGET AND TO CURB
OUR RAMPANT INFLATION.

I WANT TO SAY TO THE PEOPLE OF THE 17TH DISTRICT THAT I
DON'T KNOW MANY MEN OF MORE DEDICATION OR INTEGRITY THAN BOB
MATHIAS. I AM GLAD TO HEAR THAT HE IS RUNNING A POSITIVE CAMPAIGN
AS OPPOSED TO THOSE WHO ARE MAKING WILD CHARGES AGAINST HIM.
I AM GLAD THAT HE IS NOT A TOOL OF THOSE WHO SEEK A VETO-PROOF CONGRESS
THIS FALL.

LIKE MOST AMERICANS, I KNEW BOB BEFORE HE KNEW
ME. IN FACT, WHAT HE DID AT THE AGE OF 17 DISTRACTED ME FROM
MY VERY FIRST ELECTION CAMPAIGN. ALTHOUGH I FIRST RAN FOR
CONGRESS IN THE FALL OF 1948, IT WAS THE HIGH SCHOOL BOY FROM
CALIFORNIA WHO STUNNED THE WORLD WITH HIS SMASHING VICTORY
IN THE OLYMPIC DECATHLON AND MADE THE HEADLINES IN MY HOME TOWN.

IF WE ADD UP THE TIME, WE CAN SEE THAT BOB HAS REPRESENTED
THE BEST OF AMERICA FOR 26 YEARS. I THINK YOU CAN BE
PROUD OF THAT BECAUSE I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT I AM PROUD OF
BOB AS A FELLOW AMERICAN.

FOUR SHORT DAYS FROM NOW, MILLIONS OF AMERICANS
ARE GOING TO EXERCISE THE MIGHTIEST FORCE KNOWN TO MAN. VOTING
IS AN EXTENSION OF OUR LIBERTIES. IT CAN BREATHE LIFE INTO OUR NEEDS
AND OUR HOPES. IT CAN CARRY A MESSAGE.

ONLY ONE THING CAN STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING. AND THAT

IS APATHY. NOW I KNOW THAT SOME OF YOU MAY BE TEMPTED TO STAY

AT HOME NEXT TUESDAY. IT HAS BEEN AN UNHAPPY YEAR. A LOT OF

PEOPLE HAVE BEEN DISCOURAGED, DISILLUSIONED, TURNED OFF.

THERE MAY EVEN BE A RECORD LOW TURNOUT.

BUT IF ONLY 42 PERCENT OF THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS TURN OUT NEXT

TUESDAY, AS SOME ANALYSTS HAVE PREDICTED, THAT MEANS THAT A FRACTION

OF A LITTLE OVER 21 PERCENT WILL DETERMINE HOW THIS NATION OPERATES

FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

DO WE WANT THAT KIND OF MINORITY RULE IN AMERICA?

I DON'T, AND I DON'T THINK YOU DO EITHER.

SO I URGE ALL OF MY FRIENDS IN CALIFORNIA -- REPUBLICANS,
INDEPENDENTS AND DEMOCRATS ALIKE -- TO PROVE THAT THE POLLSTERS
HAVE SOLD YOU SHORT.

PROVE THAT YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT THE KIND OF GOVERNMENT
YOU HAVE IN SACRAMENTO AND IN WASHINGTON BY ELECTING THE BEST MEN
FOR THE JOB, MEN LIKE BOB MATHIAS AND ^{Hugh}HOUSTON FLOURNOY.

AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, AT THE STATE LEVEL AND AT THE NATIONAL
LEVEL, WE FACE THE SAME CHALLENGE. WE MUST WHIP INFLATION.
WE MUST CREAT EFFICIENT, RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT
THAT WILL END RECKLESS SPENDING -- NOT ADD TO IT.

YET DESPITE THE URGENCY OF THE PROBLEM, NOT EVERYONE
UNDERSTANDS IT. FOR EXAMPLE, I AM TOLD THAT HOUSTON FLOURNOY'S
OPPONENT IN THE GUBERNATORIAL RACE CLAIMS THAT CALIFORNIA ALONE
CANNOT DO MUCH ABOUT INFLATION -- THAT IT IS MAINLY A FEDERAL
PROBLEM.

I'VE GOT NEWS FOR HIM. WE ARE ALL IN THIS THING TOGETHER.

WE ARE ALL SUFFERING THE EFFECTS OF INFLATION TOGETHER AND WE CAN ONLY SOLVE THEM TOGETHER.

AND CALIFORNIA, AS THE WEALTHIEST, MOST POPULOUS STATE IN THE UNION IS BOTH A BIG PART OF THE PROBLEM AND A BIG PART OF THE POTENTIAL SOLUTION.

APPROXIMATELY ONE OUT OF EVERY TEN AMERICANS LIVES HERE IN CALIFORNIA. YOU HAVE THE LARGEST OF ALL DELEGATIONS IN THE CONGRESS AND THE LARGEST NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF ANY STATE IN THE NATION.

CALIFORNIA NOT INVOLVED? THAT IS NONSENSE.

THE FACT IS THAT WE CAN'T FIGHT INFLATION WITHOUT
CALIFORNIA. AND CALIFORNIA CAN'T FIGHT INFLATION IF A SPENDTHRIFT
NEW GOVERNOR IS LET LOOSE IN SACRAMENTO TO PLUNGE THE STATE BACK INTO
DEBT AND DRIVE THE COST OF GOVERNMENT UPWARD.

SO MY MESSAGE TO YOU TODAY IS A SIMPLE ONE, AND ONE
THAT I HOPE YOU WILL PASS ON TO ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS. REMEMBER WHAT
IS AT STAKE NEXT TUESDAY. REMEMBER HOW MUCH YOU WILL PAY --
HOW MUCH AMERICA WILL PAY -- IF BIG SPENDERS GET STRANGLE-HOLD
ON THE CONGRESS AND A FOUR-YEAR LEASE ON THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION IN
SACRAMENTO.

ALL AROUND THE COUNTRY, THE POLLSTERS, THE PUNDITS
AND THE POLITICIANS WILL BE WATCHING CALIFORNIA FOR A SIGN, AN
OMEN, OF POLITICAL THINGS TO COME.

IF WE CAN START TO WHIP INFLATION IN CALIFORNIA HERE
AND NOW -- BY REJECTING BIG SPENDERS AND ELECTING RESPONSIBLE
CANDIDATES -- THEN WE CAN WIN THE SAME BATTLE AGAIN AND AGAIN,
IN STATE AFTER STATE AND NATIONWIDE.

THE KEY TO IT ALL IS WITHIN EASY REACH. ALL YOU

HAVE TO DO IS REACH OUT AND PULL THE RIGHT LEVER IN YOUR VOTING BOOTH

TO HELP AMERICA BACK ON COURSE. .

GOOD LEADERSHIP IS THE ANSWER. I AM DOING MY VERY

BEST TO GIVE IT TO YOU IN THE WHITE HOUSE. BOB MATHIAS IS DOING

IT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND HOUSTON FLOURNOY CAN DO

IT IN SACRAMENTO.

BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT LEADERSHIP OF ALL IS YOUR
LEADERSHIP -- THE LEADERSHIP YOU EXERT WHEN YOU CAST YOUR VOTE --
BUT ONLY WHEN YOU CAST IT. .

NEXT TUESDAY IS ONE OF THE GREATEST OPPORTUNITIES IN
YOUR LIFETIME TO EXERCISE THAT LEADERSHIP IN A CRUCIAL,
DECISIVE WAY.

I URGE YOU -- NOT FOR THE SAKE OF ONE PARTY OR THE OTHER,

BUT FOR THE SAKE OF AMERICA -- TO BE A LEADER NEXT TUESDAY.

USE YOUR VOICE AND YOUR VOTE TO REELECT THE KIND OF MEN AND WOMEN

TO PUBLIC OFFICE WHO WILL BRING OUT THE BEST IN THIS GREAT COUNTRY

OF OURS.

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