

The original documents are located in Box 18, “10/14/75 - Remarks at GOP Fundraiser, Hartford Civic Center, Hartford, Connecticut” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

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IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE ~~HERE~~ IN CONNECTICUT

AGAIN. TRYING TO DRIVE INTO HARTFORD IN PARTICULAR

IS ALWAYS A FASCINATING EXPERIENCE FOR ANYONE IN POLITICS.

WITH ALL THOSE INTERCHANGES AND CLOVERLEAFS AND BYPASSES

AND ON-RAMPS AND OFF-RAMPS, YOU HAVE THE EXACT SAME PROBLEM

THE DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS HAVE. NO MATTER WHICH WAY YOU

GO, IT'S WRONG!

BUT LET ME ADD THIS -- IN 1976 WE'RE GOING TO HELP

THOSE DEMOCRATS OUT OF THEIR PROBLEM.

THANK YOU, FRED, FOR YOUR VERY KIND INTRODUCTION.

I WISH YOU WELL IN YOUR NEW ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLICAN

PARTY OF CONNECTICUT.

ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE A NEW JOB FOR FRED, HE'S AN OLD AND
ENTHUSIASTIC HAND AT PARTY ACTIVITY.

FRED BIEBEL HAS REALLY COME UP THROUGH THE CHAIRS
IN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY, HE HAS SERVED AS A DOORBELL
RINGER, AS TOWN CHAIRMAN, AS A COUNTY CHAIRMAN AND IN
MANY IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENTS FOR VARIOUS STATE CHAIRMEN.

NOW THAT HE HAS THE TOP CHAIR IN CONNECTICUT, ^{by Fred} HE TELLS ME .

HE ISN'T GOING TO DO MUCH SITTING IN IT. FRED IS A MOVER

AND HE'S GOING TO GET THINGS MOVING FOR THE REPUBLICAN

PARTY IN CONNECTICUT.

FRED, I JUST KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE 1976 A

GREAT YEAR FOR ALL OF US. YOU'LL GET A LOT OF HELP FROM YOUR

OUTSTANDING VICE CHAIRMAN, JEANNE NELSON, AND FROM THE REST

OF THESE DISTINGUISHED REPUBLICANS HERE TONIGHT.

I AM PLEASED AND PROUD TO SEE LOWELL WEICKER,

AN OLD FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, A SENATOR OF STRENGTH AND

COURAGE AND WISDOM. WE MUST RE-ELECT HIM TO THE

UNITED STATES SENATE, WHERE HE HAS SERVED WITH GREAT

DISTINCTION FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS.

WE MUST RE-ELECT STEW MC KINNEY AND RON SARASIN

TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, SO THEY CAN CONTINUE TO SERVE

THE PEOPLE OF CONNECTICUT IN THE EFFECTIVE, DYNAMIC WAY THEY

HAVE SERVED IN THE PAST. AND WE NEED MORE REPUBLICAN

CONGRESSMEN JUST LIKE THEM REPRESENTING THE STATE OF

CONNECTICUT.

FINALLY, I WANT TO SEE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
OF CONNECTICUT REGAIN CONTROL OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE IN
1976 AND GIVE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT ANOTHER CHANCE TO WORK
IN THIS STATE.

IN 1975, YOU HAVE A NUMBER OF LOCAL ELECTIONS

THAT ARE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT. SUCCESS THIS YEAR

WILL BE A FORERUNNER OF VICTORY IN 1976.

*Happy to have a number
of your candidates in the Oval
Office - help them WIN.*

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IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO COME TO CONNECTICUT,
ESPECIALLY DURING YOUR BEAUTIFUL FALL SEASON, AND MOST
ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SO
MANY FINE NUTMEG STATE REPUBLICANS.

I had the wonderful experience
of working, studying & living in Conn.
for nearly 6 years - 1935 thru 1940.

Duchy Pond

Norm Daniels

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE IN A STATE WHICH WRITES

14 PERCENT OF THE INSURANCE IN AMERICA TODAY. ALTOGETHER,

I AM ADVISED THAT THE PREMIUMS ALONE PAID ON POLICIES

SOLD NATIONWIDE BY CONNECTICUT INSURANCE COMPANIES TOTAL

MORE THAN 13 BILLION DOLLARS. ^{ANNUALLY.} THAT'S AN IMPRESSIVE

FIGURE.

SINCE THE BULK OF THESE PREMIUMS ARE REINVESTED
IN AMERICA -- IN MORTGAGES ON HOMES AND ON COMMERCIAL
BUILDINGS, IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMERICA'S RESOURCES,
IN STOCKS AND BONDS -- I CONSIDER THAT A GREAT VOTE OF
CONNECTICUT CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF AMERICA.

SOME 200 YEARS AGO, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SAID

THAT "IN THIS WORLD, NOTHING IS CERTAIN BUT DEATH AND

TAXES." BUT NOWADAYS, SOME POLITICIANS SEEM TO TAKE

A SHORTCUT. THEY JUST TAX PEOPLE TO DEATH.

BUT THERE IS NOTHING FUNNY WHEN IT COMES TO PAYING
TAXES -- ^{*its new taxes*} WHETHER HERE IN CONNECTICUT OR ANYWHERE IN
_↑ ~~4~~
AMERICA.

THE TAX BURDEN OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS IS FAR
TOO HEAVY. IT AFFECTS FAMILY BUDGET DECISIONS AND THE
NATION'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

(NOTE: LETTER FROM CONNECTICUT WOMAN CAN BE
READ AT THIS POINT.)

THE CONGRESS BEARS A HEAVY BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE HEAVY TAXES NOW IMPOSED UPON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE --
ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THE LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME BRACKETS.

FOR 38 OF THE LAST 42 YEARS, THE DEMOCRATS
HAVE CONTROLLED THE CONGRESS, FOLLOWING THE OLD
DEMOCRATIC FORMULA OF "TAX AND TAX, SPEND AND SPEND,
ELECT AND ELECT."

LET US TURN THAT FORMULA AROUND AND ELECT
REPUBLICANS WHO WILL TAX LESS AND SPEND LESS.

IF WE EXPECT TO RESTORE ECONOMIC STABILITY AND
DEVELOP SUSTAINED ECONOMIC GROWTH, WE MUST FIRST SET
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER.
THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I INTEND TO DO.

THAT IS WHY I INSIST ON A DECISION FROM THE
CONGRESS ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER WE WILL CONTINUE IN
Tragic
THE DIRECTION OF RECENT YEARS -- THE PATH TOWARD BIGGER
↑
GOVERNMENT, HIGHER TAXES AND HIGHER INFLATION -- OR
WHETHER WE WILL NOW TAKE A NEW DIRECTION, BRINGING A HALT
TO THE SUFFOCATING GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT, RESTORING
PROSPERITY AND ALLOWING AMERICANS ^a GREATER VOICE IN THEIR
↑
OWN FUTURE AND A GREATER SAY IN HOW TO SPEND THEIR OWN
MONEY.

IN CHOOSING THE NEW DIRECTION, I PROPOSE A
FRESH START FOR AMERICA AND FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

I PROPOSE A PERMANENT TAX CUT OF 28 BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR

STARTING NEXT JANUARY 1 AND, AT THE SAME TIME, A

MATCHING CUT IN THE GROWTH OF FEDERAL SPENDING.

AS PART OF THIS PROGRAM, I HAVE ALSO SET AS MY
GOAL A BALANCED FEDERAL BUDGET WITHIN THREE YEARS. LET
ME EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER: I WILL WORK WITH THE CONGRESS TO
INSURE THAT THOSE WHO DESERVE HELP WILL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE
THAT HELP -- THE ELDERLY, THE POOR, THE VETERANS WHO HAVE
BORNE THIS NATION'S ARMS. NOR WILL I PERMIT SLASHES IN
OUR MILITARY BUDGET THAT WOULD JEOPARDIZE OUR NATIONAL
SECURITY.

growth of
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OVERALL, MY PROPOSALS TO CUT TAXES AND SPENDING

WILL NOT ONLY LIGHTEN YOUR TAX LOAD, THEY WILL HELP MAKE
UP FOR THE RAVAGES OF INFLATION -- THE CRUELEST AND MOST
PERVASIVE TAX OF ALL.

THEY WILL ALSO HELP STIMULATE THE ECONOMIC
GROWTH NECESSARY TO CREATE NEW JOBS AND GET AMERICA
BACK TO WORK. I HAVE PROPOSED A PERMANENT INCREASE
IN THE INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT FOR BUSINESSES AND A TWO
PERCENT REDUCTION IN THE CORPORATE TAX RATE.

BOTH OF THESE PROPOSALS ARE DESIGNED TO HELP CREATE

JOB IN AMERICAN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY -- WHICH IS THE

FOUNDATION OF OUR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM.

BUT IF WE WANT THIS KIND OF NEW DIRECTION IN
OUR TAX POLICIES, WE MUST HAVE A NEW DIRECTION IN OUR
SPENDING POLICIES AS WELL. WE CANNOT LET THE FEDERAL
BUDGET KEEP GROWING AS IT HAS FOR THE LAST 13 YEARS.
IF WE DO, BY THE YEAR 2000 HALF OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS
NATION WILL BE LIVING OFF THE OTHER HALF.

IN 1962, THE BUDGET CLIMBED OVER THE 100 BILLION
DOLLAR MARK FOR THE FIRST TIME.

BY 1971, IT WENT

BY 1975 IT TOPPED 300 BILLION.
OVER 200 BILLION DOLLARS. AND WITHOUT SOME SERIOUS

TRIMMING, IT WILL GO OVER 400 BILLION DOLLARS IN THE NEXT

FISCAL YEAR. THAT IS A 300 PERCENT INCREASE IN 13 YEARS.

- 25 -
To meet this problem head-on

~~ACCORDINGLY~~, I HAVE PROPOSED THAT WE HALT THIS
ALARMING GROWTH BY HOLDING SPENDING TO 395 BILLION DOLLARS
IN THE COMING FISCAL YEAR. THAT REPRESENTS A 28 BILLION
DOLLAR CUT FROM THE SPENDING LEVEL CURRENTLY PROJECTED
IF ALL EXISTING FEDERAL PROGRAMS ARE ALLOWED TO GROW AS
THEY HAVE IN THE RECENT PAST.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS THROUGHOUT AMERICA MAY
COMPLAIN WHEN FUNDS ARE CUT AS PART OF THIS ECONOMY DRIVE.

BUT MY CONCERN -- AND YOUR CONCERN -- IS NOT FOR THE

SPECIAL INTERESTS. IT'S FOR THE PEOPLE'S INTERESTS, THE

TAXPAYER'S INTEREST, THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

THE TEMPTATION OF YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE
CONGRESS TO ACCEPT THE TAX CUTS BUT REJECT THE SPENDING CUTS
WILL BE TREMENDOUS. IT'S AN OLD STORY. EVERYBODY WANTS
TO GO TO HEAVEN, BUT NOBODY WANTS TO DIE.

I SERVED IN THE CONGRESS LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT
FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE.

BUT IF WE'RE REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT GETTING BOTH OUR
ECONOMY AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UNDER CONTROL, THE
CONGRESS MUST COMMIT ITSELF WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO A POLICY
OF STRICT FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY.

INSTEAD OF THROWING UP ITS HANDS AND SAYING IT
CAN'T BE DONE, I SUGGEST THIS DEMOCRATIC-CONTROLLED
CONGRESS TAKE A GOOD HARD LOOK AT HOW THE DEMOCRATIC-
CONTROLLED 90TH CONGRESS PLACED A CEILING ON SPENDING --
AND, AT THE SAME TIME, ENACTED AN INCREASE IN TAXES
RECOMMENDED BY A DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT.

THIS TIME, I SIMPLY WANT THE CONGRESS TO PLACE

A CEILING ON SPENDING AND ENACT A TAX CUT. HERE'S

HOW THE 90TH CONGRESS DID IT:

IN DECEMBER OF 1967, THE CONGRESS WROTE INTO A
CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS BILL A PROVISION REDUCING FEDERAL
OBLIGATIONS FOR FISCAL 1968 BY AT LEAST NINE BILLION DOLLARS
AND FEDERAL SPENDING BY AT LEAST 4 BILLION DOLLARS.

IN 1968, THE 90TH CONGRESS ENACTED A 10 PERCENT
SURTAX ON CORPORATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHICH PRESIDENT
JOHNSON HAD REQUESTED. AT THE SAME TIME, IT WROTE INTO
THE LEGISLATION A 10 BILLION DOLLAR REDUCTION IN OUTLAYS IN
FISCAL 1969 AND AN 8 BILLION DOLLAR RECISION OF UNSPENT
PRIOR-YEAR APPROPRIATIONS.

IT WAS A SIMPLE AS THAT.

TONIGHT, I SAY

TO THE "CAN'T DO" CONGRESS:

IT CAN BE DONE.

It has been done.

WHY NOT DO IT?

LET ME BE SPECIFIC ABOUT THIS POINT;~~AS WELL:~~

IF THE CONGRESS SENDS ME LEGISLATION THAT EXCEEDS THE
SPENDING LIMITATION AND THREATENS YOUR TAX CUT, I WILL
NOT HESITATE TO USE THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AVAILABLE
TO ME -- AND VETO THAT LEGISLATION.

THE VETO HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS A "NEGATIVE" ACT,
BUT I'VE USED IT 39 TIMES AND SAVED THE AMERICAN TAXPAYERS
6 BILLION DOLLARS. I WILL USE IT 100 TIMES, IF NECESSARY,
TO PREVENT EXCESSIVE AND INFLATIONARY SPENDING INCREASES.
AND THAT'S ABOUT AS POSITIVE AS YOU CAN GET.

an when

BUT THERE IS ~~A~~ BETTER WAY TO ACHIEVE FISCAL

responsibility -
SOLVENCY.

WE NEED -- YOU AND I NEED -- THE FULL

SUPPORT OF THE CONGRESS TO MAKE THIS PROGRAM WORK.

YOUR HELP IS ESSENTIAL TO CONVINCING THE CONGRESS THAT THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE SUPPORT THESE REFORMS IN OUR TAX AND

SPENDING POLICIES.

WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE AMERICA'S
ECONOMIC FUTURE BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS AND VIGOROUS.
BUT IF WE GROW WEARY IN OUR COMMITMENT AND WEAK IN
OUR RESOLVE, OUR ECONOMIC COURSE WILL BE IN DANGER FOR
YEARS TO COME.

A COMMITMENT TO FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY IS NOTHING
NEW TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. IT IS ONE OF OUR FOUNDING
PRINCIPLES, AS ARE ^{the}~~OUR~~ COMMITMENTS TO A STRONG NATIONAL
DEFENSE, TO LOCAL CONTROL OVER LOCAL CONCERNS, TO A
VIGOROUS FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM AND TO GREATER FREEDOM
AND DIGNITY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL.

HERE IN CONNECTICUT AND ALL ACROSS AMERICA, WE
MUST SHOW OUR FELLOW CITIZENS THAT THEIR CONCERNS ARE
OUR CONCERNS, THAT THEIR HOPES FOR A STRONG, FREE AND
PROSPEROUS AMERICA ARE OUR HOPES.

WE MUST DEMONSTRATE ANEW THAT THE REPUBLICAN
PARTY IS PREPARED TO LEAD AND TO SERVE THE PEOPLE
RESPONSIBLY, ~~RESPONSIVELY~~ AND EFFECTIVELY.

WE MUST CONVINCe THEM THAT A REPUBLICAN VICTORY
CAN BE A GREAT VICTORY FOR THEM.

WE CAN HELP TO MAKE THESE YEARS GREAT ONES FOR
AMERICA, SO THAT WE AND OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR CHILDREN
MAY SAY WITH NEW MEANING AND FRESH ENTHUSIASM THESE
FINE OLD WORDS OF DANIEL WEBSTER: "THANK GOD. I AM
AN AMERICAN."

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT

DINNER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- THANK YOU, ^{THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...} FRED BIEBEL
- SENATOR LOWELL WEICKER
- CONGRESSMEN RON SARISON
STEWART MCKINNEY
- ED MAY
- LLOYD ELSTON, JOHN FILER, ARCH McCARDLE AND ALL THOSE WHO MADE THIS DINNER SUCH A GRAND SUCCESS
- *
- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

of all my former colleagues in the Congress.

* POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- THE TWO FINE BANDS ON HAND:
 - THE NEW BRITAIN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
 - THE CENTURIAN DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS
- AND A SPECIAL GREETING TO THOSE IN THE FAR BALLROOM WHO, THANKS TO MOVABLE WALLS, JUST JOINED US.