

**The original documents are located in Box 24, “2/23/76 - Introduction of Mr. Tony Bennett to Provide Entertainment at the Winter Meeting of the National Governors' Conference” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . . .

INTRODUCTION OF TONY BENNETT

DINNER FOR GOVERNORS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1976

TONIGHT WE'RE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE AS OUR GUEST STAR

ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR AND TALENTED SINGERS --

MR. TONY BENNETT. ACTUALLY I SHOULD CALL HIM DR. BENNETT,

BECAUSE HE WAS RECENTLY HONORED WITH A DOCTORATE IN MUSIC,

FOR THE INFLUENCE HIS SINGING HAS HAD ON YOUNG PEOPLE.

TONY LIKES TO SING LOVE SONGS, AND IN THAT WAY I THINK

HE HAS A GOOD INFLUENCE ON PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

LET ME ADD THAT IT'S A SPECIAL HONOR FOR ME

TO INTRODUCE TONY BENNETT, BECAUSE A MONTH AGO HE BECAME

CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED WAY'S BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN.

I'M SURE HIS TALENT WILL HELP TO MAKE THIS YEAR

AN ESPECIALLY SUCCESSFUL ONE FOR THE UNITED WAY AND

FOR THE MANY PEOPLE IT SERVES.

I'VE LOOKED FORWARD TO HEARING HIM TONIGHT,

AND I WON'T DELAY ANY LONGER -- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

TONY BENNETT.

END OF TEXT