

The original documents are located in Box 38, “9/29/76 - Remarks to Guests Attending a Reception of U.S. Business Leaders” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

TALKING POINTS FOR BUSINESS ORGANIZATION LEADERS, WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 29, 1976

I welcome the opportunity to speak to this distinguished group of business leaders.

Today 88 million Americans are gainfully employed -- more than ever before in our history. But that's not good enough.

My immediate goal is two and a half million new jobs every year with emphasis on our youth, especially the minorities. Not demeaning, dead-end jobs paid for out of the Federal Treasury, but permanent jobs with a future generated by the demands of a healthy economy.

Can we do it? We have done it.

We proved once and for all that you can cut inflation in half and add four million new jobs in just 17 months. We did it with tax cuts that allowed Americans to spend more of their own money. We did it with tax incentives that encouraged job production. We did it by letting our free economic system do what it does better than any other

system in the world -- produce.

But I won't be satisfied until every American who wants a job can find a job.

I am particularly concerned that there are too many young Americans who cannot find a good job, or get the training and experience they need to find a good job.

Americans have long since recognized the importance of assuring that every high school graduate who is willing, able and qualified be able to go to college. We have done so through grants, loans and scholarships.

I believe we can apply this same principle to create a program for young people who choose not to go to college, but want a job at which they can learn a trade, a craft or practical business skills.

Let's put America -- all of America -- to work!

We must also continue our battle against the deadly enemy of inflation. By holding the line on government spending, by not being afraid to say "no" to the big

spenders in Congress, we cut inflation in half, and we saved more than 9 billion dollars in the process. We must do even better in the future, and we will.

We've had some less than encouraging news on the economy this week, with the report from the Commerce Department on leading economic indicators.

But I am convinced that America's economic recovery will continue, it will pick up steam in the months ahead, and it will lead us on the road to a new prosperity in the United States without the heavy burden of inflation.

That is my goal. That is my policy. That is what I expect to happen, with your help.

I appreciate your being here today, and I hope you'll stay for the refreshments.

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