The original documents are located in Box 39, folder "Primaries - Texas - PFC Press Releases (3)" of the Ron Nessen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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NEWS RELEASE from the President Ford Committee

P.O. BOX 15345, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761 (512) 459-4101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel Grace Marie Prather

President Ford has won the endorsement of the 12,000 member Mexican-American Political Assn. (MAPA) and the overwhelming support of the Texas MAPA Chairman Javier Garcia of El Paso.

This marks the first time in MAPA's 16-year history that members have endorsed a Republican primary candidate for President.

There are many Mexican-American citizens in El Paso and throughout Texas who believe President Ford has done an outstanding job and who want to work to keep him as our President," Garcia said Tuesday.

The national treasurer of MAPA, Francisco Amaro, and the national parliamentarian, Robert Ferra, plan to travel to El Paso this week to meet with Garcia and to organize MAPA for Ford in the state.

MAPA has 5000 members in Texas in four cities - El Paso, San Antonio, Fort Worth and Dallas, Garcia said. It is the largest bi-partisan political organization in the United States.

Manuel Lopez, MAPA's national president, said President Ford received all 152 delegate votes in balloting for the presidential endorsement in the group's 1976 primary endorsement convention in Los Angeles this weekend.

Lopez said the Ford endorsement was due to the President's representative at the convention, Southwest regional field coordinator Al Zapanta, displaying a strong interest in the problems facing the Mexican-American

2-2-2-2 MAPA

community.

Zapanta said the MAPA delegates also were aware of Ronald Reagan's consistent refusal to listen to the needs and problems of Mexican-American citizens during his tenure as governor of California.

"Ronald Reagan did not have one Mexican-American in any executive position in his Administration, despite the fact that Mexican-Americans make up 20 per cent of the population of California and are the largest minority group in the state," Zapanta said.

"And during his entire term as governor, Reagan never went to the barrios to listen to the needs and concerns of Mexican-Americans so his administration would be able to deal with and solve their problems."

Lopez said most Republican candidates have ignored MAPA conventions, as did Ronald Reagan. "Obviously the President's campaign did not make this mistake."

"His representatives worked hard and received our endorsement. They gave honest, candid answers and the delegates were impressed," Lopez added.



from the President Ford Committee P.O. BOX 15345, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761 (512) 459-4101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel Grace Marie Prather

Ronald Reagan's plan to wipe out revenue sharing would turn us into a "ghettoized nation" and would threaten now proposperous state and local governments with bankruptcy, former Fort Worth Mayor R. M. "Sharkey" Stovall charged today.

"The smaller and poorer states and cities simply wouldn't be able to provide the services that would be lost under Ronald Reagan's plan to wipe out revenue sharing and other federal programs with his \$90 billion plan.

"As a result, there would be an aggravated flight of poverty level families from these small, poorer states into states and cities that do have the resources to provide the services, like Texas .

"The demand for liberal benefits would skyrocket," Stovall said.

He cited New York City as a case in point:

"When immigration laws were liberalized with Puerto Rico, we saw a tremendous influx of Puerto Ricans into New York. And this created an astounding demand for liberal services in the city.

"Now New York, once the richest city in the country, is threatened with bankruptcy."

Stovall said the same thing could happen to cities and counties

"Texas right now has a reserve of over \$2 billion. But what would happen to that reserve if the state suddenly were forced to support another million poverty level families who migrated from smaller Southern cities and states that had to eliminate services because they lost revenue sharing funds and federal money for education, health services and income security.

"I'll tell you Texas' reserve wouldn't last very long."

"Ronald Reagan's plan would turn us into a ghettoized nation with the poor concentrated in the once large and prosperous states and the more affluent remaining in the once small and poor states," Stovall said.

Stovall is a Ford delegate candidate in the sixth congressional district in Fort Worth.

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

Star-Telegram Fort Worth, Texas

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Bentsen, Ford presidential <u>ces</u>

The Hallas Morning News

The News, oldest business institution in Texas, was established in 1842 while Texas was a Republic

Editorial Page

Dick West, Editorial Director

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1976

The News Endorses:

Ford for President

SUN., MARCH 28, 1976

The Midland Reporter-Telegram

Dial 882-5311 P.O. Box 1650 Midland, Texas 79701 MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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JAMES N. ALLISON (1902-1975)

JIM ALLISON, JR ...

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In the driver's seat

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HOUSTON - Ronald Reagan's record as the biggest taxer and spender in California's history stands in stark contrast to President Ford's fiscal economies, according to Robert Mosbacher, finance chairman of the President Ford Committee.

"In President Ford," said Mosbacher, "we have a political leader with a proven record. The President has vetoed 47 bills and saved American taxpayers more than \$13 billion.

"Under Reagan, Californians suffered three huge tax increases totaling more than \$2 billion. In eight years of Reagan's governorship, state personal income tax revenues went up 500%, bank and corporation taxes went up 100%, the state sales tax rose from 4% to 6%."

Mosbacher, a Houston businessman who is seeking election as a Ford delegate from the 7th congressional district, told a political meeting here that despite efforts to provide property tax relief the average homeowner's rate rose more quickly under Reagan than under either his Democratic or Republican predecessors.

"I am shocked to learn the true nature of Gov. Reagan's taxing and spending record. It is clear that candidate Reagan talks a far different brand of fiscal conservatism than Gov. Reagan practiced," said Mosbacher.

"I bring these facts to the attention of Texas voters so they won't be misled by claims to the contrary and I challenge the governor or any of his Texas spokesmen to disprove them."

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By contrast, he said, the California budget under Reagan rose \$4.6 to \$10.2 billion.

"That's an average of 12.2% yearly," Mosbacher added. "Under Reagan's successor, Edmund G. Brown Jr., the increase has been 6%."



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Mrs. Beryl Buckley Milburn, Director of the Texas President Ford Committee today announced that President Ford will be in Texas Tuesday-Friday, April 27-30, for a series of events in Tyler, Fort Worth, Houston, Conroe, Waco, Dallas, Lubbock and Abilene.

In announcing the President's visit, Mrs. Milburn said, "We anticipate an enthusiastic response for the President at all his stops on his trip and more of the same at the polls on May 1st."

The President's Schedule:

Tuesday, April 27, 1976

Afternoon - Depart Washington

Afternoon - Arrives Shreveport, La., participates in Holiday In Dixie Festival

Overnight - Tyler

Wednesday, April 28, 1976

Morning - Public forum, Q & A session, Tyler Junior College Tyler

Noon - Speech, Ft. Worth-Tarrant County Bar Association Ft. Worth

Overnight - Houston

Thursday, April 29, 1976

Morning - Regional Press Conference, Houston

Noon Event to be announced

Afternoon - Public forum, Q & A session, Baylor University Waco

> Civic reception hosted by Waco President Ford Committee

Overnight - Dallas

Friday, April 30, 1976

Morning - Public forum, Q & A session sponsored by the Public Affairs Council of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce

Afternoon &

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Return to Washington late Friday evening



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DALLAS - Texas' \$827 million cash surplus would be wiped out and Texans would be faced with a possible personal income tax if Ronald Reagan's \$90 billion plan were implemented, State Senator Ike Harris of Dallas charged today.

"Texas would lose some \$2.5 billion in federal funds for education, health, highway construction, revenue sharing and hundreds of other vital programs if Reagan's extreme and irresponsible plan were put into effect," Harris said.

"That budget surplus that (State Comptroller Bob) Bullock has projected would be wiped out several times over if Ronald Reagan were to have his way with Texas."

Harris said the state would have two alternatives: It could raise the \$2.5 billion in new taxes or it could eliminate the lost services.

"That would mean doing without all federal aid for education totaling \$264 million, doing without \$414 million for health spending through Medicaid and \$299 million for revenue sharing programs that fund hundreds of city services."

"If we decided we couldn't do without those and many other services, we would have to raise another \$2 billion in new taxes. That would mean whopping increases in sales taxes and property taxes and most likely the imposition of a personal income tax for Texas," Harris said.

"Our state's financial situation today is as good as or better than any other state's in the nation," he said. "But that could change fast if Reagan were to yank all those federal funds and federal programs from us."

Harris serves on the Economic Development, Human Resources, and Jurisprudence committees in the Texas Senate and is vice-chairman of the subcommittee on criminal matters.



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Mr. Ron Nessen Press Secretary to the President The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

from the President Ford Committee P.O. BOX 15345, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761 (512) 459-4101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel Grace Marie Prather

Senator John Tower cautioned Texas voters Thursday not to gamble away "our conservative President in the White House" for the "simplistic sloganeering" of Ronald Reagan.

"The President is electable in the fall and Gov. Reagan is not," Tower told a Four-for-Ford rally in Boerne during the second day of a 21-city campaign swing.

"Based on the somewhat simplistic sloganeering I've heard so far in his campaign, I doubt seriously that Gov. Reagan has the experience or grasp of national issues to handle the Presidency nearly as well as Ford," Tower said.

He noted that more than 60 former California appointees or key political supporters of ex-Gov. Reagan now actively back Ford.

"Their reasons are varying but the dominant one is they question his qualifications to be President," Tower said. "Many of these former allies feel Reagan is at best an inspirational leader but lacks either the persistence or stamina required by a round-the-clock presidency."

"Ronald Reagan is an attractive man and makes a good speech but it's one thing to shout a lot of slogans and another to demonstrate the deep-seated grasp of national issues," Tower added.

The Texas Republican said Ford has proven his conservatism during the 15 years Tower worked with him in Congress.

"As President, Ford has faced the hostile, liberal Congress and courageous-Tyth Vetoeder Some Mort Bond and a back and she in Surchase Host French Willing Charles and Surchase Host is and the day if our Tower said.

"When he came into office, our economy was in a mess and now we're on the way to a very orderly recovery," said Tower. "Had it not been for Ford, the Congress would have plunged us into a lot of foolish programs, reheated inflation and thrown us back into recession."

On defense, Tower said Ford is advocating a 14% hike in defense spending - the biggest increase in many years.

"And it appears that Ford has finally convinced Congress that we must maintain a military posture second to no one," Tower said. "For the first time in six years, a President has turned around the trend by Congress to cut defense needs."

On Thursday, Tower also spoke to Ford gatherings in Kerrville, New Braunfels and Seguin. Delegates pledged to Ford from the 21st and 23rd Congressional Districts joined Tower at the various stops.

On Friday, Tower will campaign for Ford in Victoria, Port Lavaca and Bryan. He also will hold a news conference at 2:30 p.m. Friday in Houston. The senator will travel to Nacogdoches, Texarkana, Lufkin and San Antonio on Saturday and wind up in North Texas Sunday.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 1976 Contact: Pete Roussel G.M. Prather

SAN ANTONIO--Ronald Reagan's record shows he has supported a compulsory union shop yet he is trying to deceive the voters of Texas into thinking he favors right to work legislation, Rep. Jim Nowlin told the San Antonio Breakfast Club meeting at El Tropicano Hotel.

"While Reagan was in Hollywood, he advocated union shops and opposed right to work legislation," Nowlin said. "Reagan said he believed right to work laws can 'wreck your guild, rob you of your professional benefits.'"

"Now, Ronald Reagan is coming to Texas as a presidential candidate, switching his stand, and trying to convince us he is for right to work laws. I think we have to look at his record to see where he really stands. His rhetoric and his record show he stands squarely behind compulsory union shops," Nowlin said.

The San Antonio legislator cited these statements made by Reagan during the 1966 California gubernatorial campaign:

"I know many union people feel they have made great gains in working conditions while non-union people get a free ride." Ronald Reagan quoted in the Los Angeles Times, January 23, 1966.

"I have always opposed right to work laws and still do." Reagan speaking to the UPI editors conference in Solvang, Calif., October 22, 1966.

And Reagan in his inaugural address on January 5, 1967 said:

2-2-2-2-2 right to work

includes a certain amount of compulsion with regard to union membership."

Reagan's record advocating compulsory unionism contrasts sharply with that of President Ford, Nowlin said.

"As a member of Congress, Gerald R. Ford voted for retaining the right to work provision of the Taft-Hartley Act. And as President, he vetoed the common situs picketing bill.

"Against an unsympathetic Congress, President Ford has fought successfully to maintain an equitable balance of economic power between management and organized labor," Nowlin said.

"His veto of the common situs picketing bill blocked one of the most brazen power grabbing attempts by organized labor to occur at the federal level in recent memory.

"And, of all who are actively seeking the presidency, President Ford possesses the strongest, most consistent, most outspoken record of support on behalf of state prerogatives to enact right to work statutes."

Nowlin said this is a "significant indication" of President Ford's concern for individual freedom of choice regarding union membership.

Nowlin is a Ford delegate candidate from Texas' 21st congressional district in San Antonio and is a member of the Texas House of Representatives.

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from the P.O. BOX 15345, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761 (512) 459-4101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel Grace Marie Prather

Ronald Reagan claims to be a great friend of the petroleum industry "yet as governor of California he signed into law a bill which reduced the state oil depletion allowance within California by 5 per cent," Robert W. Blake of Lubbock charged today. Blake, an independent oil producer serves as Lubbock County Chairman for the President Ford Committee.

Blake pointed out that in addition to cutting the state depletion allowance from $27\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 22 per cent, the law also imposed a $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent minimum income tax on all tax sheltered incomes such as oil depletion allowances.

"Mr. Reagan evidently has a peculiar way of showing his avowed support for the petroleum industry," Blake said. "If he is such a staunch defender of the industry, and, as he has stated, would battle to get the oil depletion allowance restored, why did he sign this legislation? Why didn't he veto it?

He keeps talking about how he'd restore the depletion allowance. So what's new? A lot of people would like to do the same thing, but the fact is that it's Congress that's done the damage and under its current make-up Mr. Reagan's chances of getting it through would be next to impossible."

POR DUBRAR

"The fact is he had a chance to do something about it and he President Ford Committee, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463. didn't," Blake noted.

"Once again we have a case of the Reagan rhetoric differing from the reality of his record, a situation which, in this case, should be of great concern to all Texans, and particularly to those involved in this industry so vital to the economy of our state."

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April 24, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel Grace Marie Prather

Ronald Reagan claims to be a great friend of the petroleum industry "yet as governor of California he signed into law a bill which reduced the state oil depletion allowance within California by 5 per cent," Robert W. Blake of Lubbock charged today. Blake, an independent oil producer serves as Lubbock County Chairman for the President Ford Committee.

Blake pointed out that in addition to cutting the state depletion allowance from $27\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 22 per cent, the law also imposed a $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent minimum income tax on all tax sheltered incomes such as oil depletion allowances.

"Mr. Reagan evidently has a peculiar way of showing his avowed support for the petroleum industry," Blake said. "If he is such a staunch defender of the industry, and, as he has stated, would battle to get the oil depletion allowance restored, why did he sign this legislation? Why didn't he veto it?

He keeps talking about how he'd restore the depletion allowance. So what's new? A lot of people would like to do the same thing, but the fact is that it's Congress that's done the damage, and under its current make-up Mr. Reagan's chances of getting it through would be next to impossible."

"The fact is he had a chance to do something about it and The President Ford Committee, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463. didn't," Blake noted.

"Once again we have a case of the Reagan rhetoric differing from the reality of his record, a situation which, in this case, should be of great concern to all Texans, and particularly to those involved in this industry so vital to the economy of our state."

from the President Ford Committee P.O. BOX 15345, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761 (512) 459-4101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel

President Ford and Administration energy policy were endorsed today in a letter signed by ten prominent independent Texas petroleum industry leaders and sent to other producers and refiners in the state.

Industry leaders signing the letter were: John G. Hurd, Laredo; George P. Mitchell, Houston; L.M. McAlister, San Antonio; John J. Redfern, Jr., Midland; L. Frank Pitts, Dallas; Frank Wood, Jr., Abilene; Tom Medders, Jr., Wichita Falls; Jack V. McGlothlin, Abilene; Jon Rex Jones, Albany; and John J. Christmann, Lubbock.

In the letter, the President is commended for "taking time personally to understand our problems," and adds, "because he is, good things are happening right now - despite the intransigence of the bureaucracy and an uncooperative Congress. If we are fair, we must admit President Ford is trying to insist on the best possible energy policy under the rules Congress has imposed."

The letter goes on to cite seven specific areas of commendation for Administration energy policy and concludes: "Texas has a bigger than usual role in this year's elections. What we do May 1 can mean an awful lot. If we show the Nation Texans believe in the man already there, and are realistic enough to recognize him as the best hope for our Nation, he can move forward to easy nomination and to victory in November. Your support is needed now." #####

(LETTER ATTACHED)

Independent Producers/Refiners

President Ford

Dear Friend:

Let's be fair.

In Jerry Ford, we have a President who represents the kind of leadership our Nation needs at this time. He believes in the things most oil and gas independents do. He wants the kind of America we want.

His Republican opponent in the upcoming Primary is also a fine American. And he too says things we like to hear said. If elected, he probably would make the kind of President we want. But as realists, we surely all know his chances of making it are too remote to chance in these troubled times.

President Ford subscribes to a strong America. He knows that means moving this Nation as rapidly as possible toward energy independence. Under his Administration, though challenged at every point by Congress, we are launched on that road.

It's easy to criticize an incumbent, especially when we see things happening which we know aren't best for our Nation. President Ford, we're constantly reminded, did sign the atrocious Energy Bill. But he did so with the greatest reluctance, and only after weighing probable alternatives which could have been far worse for us and the Nation. In signing the bill last December, President Ford said he would do everything possible to maximize energy development under it.

Unlike other candidates and most past Presidents, Mr. Ford is taking time personally to understand our problems. Because he is, good things are happening right now -- despite the intransigence of the bureaucracy and an uncooperative Congress. If we are fair, we must admit President Ford is trying to insist on the best possible energy policy under the rules Congress has imposed. For example:

* Although Congress prescribed in EPCA only a 10 percent crude price escalator between now and February 1977, the Ford Administration will soon present Congress with a strong case to escalate crude prices more than that 10 percent in order to maximize energy development.

* His Administration has just announced plans to modify the definition of "property" in FEA regulations, thereby removing a troublesome impediment to new drilling.



The President Fund Committee, Rogers C. B. Morton, Chairman, Robert Mosbacher, National Finance Chairman, Robert C. Moot, Treasurer. A copy of our report is filed with the Federal Election Commission, Washington, D.C. 20463.

* Although Congress has mandated allocation controls on crude, the FEA has issued new proposed regulations providing so-called "windows" to allow independent producers to change purchasers when necessary to their interests.

* FEA is presently reconciling recommendations of independent refiner groups for modifying the small refiner purchase exemption by increasing the small refiner "bias" so as to give equal treatment to all refiners.

* Under consideration is a proposal that all marginal well operations be removed from the composite price ceiling, in order to prevent premature abandonment of producing properties.

* FEA has just assured independents it is reassessing the third-tier entitlements regulation to be certain imported petroleum is not favored over domestic production.

* Petroleum product prices are being decontrolled, and the Administration has under consideration a proposal to decontrol all products of small refiners in order to prevent competitive disparities with larger companies.

Texas has a bigger than usual role in this year's elections. What we do May 1 can mean an awful lot. If we show the Nation Texans believe in the man already there, and are realistic enough to recognize him as the best hope for our Nation, he can move forward to easy nomination and to victory in November. Your support is needed now.

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VOTE MAY 1 IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY FOR PRESIDENT FORD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel G.M. Prather

California State Senator Robert S. Stevens documented Ronald Reagan's record as the biggest taxer and spender in California history at a news conference Tuesday morning in Dallas.

"While Reagan was governor, state and local taxes doubled, our sales tax jumped from 4 cents to 6 cents on the dollar and state spending nearly tripled," Stevens said.

Stevens, who currently represents Los Angeles in the California State Senate, has served in the legislature for 14 years, spanning Reagan's entire tenure as governor of California.

"During Reagan's eight years, he increased personal state income taxes a whopping 500%. And he also imposed a mandatory - and very unpopular - state withholding tax, the very thing he campaigned against in 1966.

"He also increased bank and corporation taxes by 100%, discouraging the industrial development needed to provide jobs for California residents."

Stevens, a life-long Republican and one of Reagan's former defenders in the California legislature, said Reagan virtually destroyed the Republican Party in the state.

"During his administration, the GOP slipped to its lowest numerical strength in the state legislature in nearly 100 years," and Stevens put the blame squarely on Reagan for vetoing a compromise reapportionment bill which legislative Republicans supported.

Stevens is in Texas to hold a series of news conferences in four report of bled with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Mashington, D.C. 20463.

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cities "to set straight the facts on Reagan's record as governor."

Stevens warned if Reagan were to win the GOP presidential nomination, the Democrats in California would have a <u>hey day</u> bringing the real facts of Reagan's record in California to light.

"I am here today in Texas to try to stop that from happening and to encourage voters to unite behind President Ford, the only Republican who can win in November and the only candidate with a proven record in the areas of fiscal conservatism, maintaining a strong defense and restoring confidence in the American System."



from the President Ford Committee P.O. BOX 15345, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78761 (512) 459-4101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 1976 CONTACT: Peter Roussel

Millard M. Holden of McAllen, immediate past president of the Independent Produce Haulers of America, today endorsed President Ford.

"I'm a Democrat," Holden said, "but I will vote in the Republican Primary Saturday for President Ford because I believe he's earned a full term in office."

"I've conferred with the President and officials of his Administration on transportation policy. I'm convinced he's sincere in his attempts to relieve burdens on small businessmen and provide them with incentives that ultimately benefit consumers. His policies regarding transportation of produce definitely would help consumers by lowering cost.

"Among Presidential candidates, Gerald Ford has taken a stand in favor of the policies needed to alleviate problems throughout our industry," Holden said.

