

CAMPAIGN SPEECH OCTOBER FUNDRAISER

Before I start my commentary, I just want to make something very clear. I declined to have any political speakers here today, because I didn't want this event to be about a Political Party. I want it to be about my campaign for change. I want it to be about the fact we are all Americans and specifically Iowans. We must be inclusive and not exclusive! If we are going to have true change in Des Moines, we have to reach across Party lines with dialog and compromise while working for a better Iowa.

The first thing we must accomplish, is getting me elected, sending the message to Des Moines that business as usual in District 80 is over! We now have a voice for a "Common Sense Approach to State Government". We now have a leader from District 80 who will advocate Government by the people and for the people. Who will push both parties for establishing practical priorities! Really balance the budget, and not just move money from one budget cycle to another, which is nothing but a shell game.

Cut "Pork Barrel Spending"! You hear about it on the federal level, like the "Bridge that goes nowhere", but we have it on the State level also. We all have heard or read about the \$120,000 for flower pots in Des Moines, but have any of you heard about the \$80,000 for an antique organ for Claremont, Iowa?

How any governing body, can knowingly budget expenditures for 100's of millions of dollars more than statistically expected revenue, is totally beyond my comprehension! It's not only bad money management, but its fiscal suicide! At the same time they under funded the Iowa Senior Living Trust and cut Iowa veterans Affairs appropriations. This makes NO SENSE!

I constantly hear that Iowa has no growth, which statistics confirm. So what did our Legislature do? They establish the "Iowa Value Fund" to help create new business and help old business's rejuvenate themselves. Of course this is paid for through your tax dollars, 35 million per year to be exact. Now I am not saying this is a bad program, but what I am saying is our State Government is literally out of control. It will not remain healthy by taxing its citizens to death and then collecting their "Death Tax", but rather restructure the tax codes to encourage business growth and growing the tax base. Think about it, why would we want to increase revenue by increasing individual tax's when we can do more by increasing the overall tax base, adding more individual tax payers? Every single State around us has lower Corporate and Personal tax rates than Iowa. Why would anyone in their right mind want to move to Iowa and start a business or raise a family? This States insatiable hunger for our money in order to create a larger than needed Government must be stopped. We must establish practical priorities and a "Common Sense Business Type Approach" to State Government. Only then will a tax base relying on real goods and services exist rather than revenue based on gaming proceeds, tobacco tax, and user fees which are here today and gone tomorrow. My goals lead to stable sustained growth!

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In this whole process of fiduciary responsibility we must not forget to continue to strengthen our school system and accountability requirements. If this great nation is to remain, it is imperative our youth lead the world in math, science, and overall education. We are no longer a "Blue Collar" society, and our future lies in our ability to adapt and invent. This we have done and can continue to do by setting practical priorities. Wouldn't it be great to see Iowa leading the nation again in education? Why is this so important?

Many issues facing government at all levels are inter-related, examples are Social Security, declining population growth, and the influx of illegal aliens. When Social Security was established, the formula considered the United States would have a normal birth rate and use the funds collected strictly for this purpose. What happened? The Federal Government robbed the S.S. account for other purposes thus minimizing the funds ability to grow. When the 70's came around our Nations population growth declined by over one million people per year, again changing the formula for S.S. and also changing the available work force the U.S. would need for natural business growth. This discussion has been held in the business community for over 20 years. So what are the effects of a slower than normal birth rate?

- 1.) We have less people paying into S.S., while more people are receiving benefits longer, due to extended life spans, making it more difficult to sustain this fund. And many of you here know the effect this is having on your future finances.
- 2.) According to the Federal Bureau of Statistics, by the year 2014 our growth rate for available age work force will be at .6 percent which is an unacceptable level to sustain job fulfillment. The Governments answer; rely on the elderly and illegal aliens.
- 3.) Which brings up another related issue, our border problem with illegals. It is so hard to find an acceptable solution to our illegal alien problem which normally would be simple, by just enforcing our current immigration law. However, there are many US businesses that rely on these illegal's in order to fill their jobs and operate their business, so they fight the obvious, enforcement! This problem will only worsen!

It also changes the demographics of our population and the needs they have. With an aging population, and workforce made up of those older workers as well as illegals, it minimizes our ability to fill our needs. It also cripples our ability to compete in the world market. According to Government statistics, our Nation will require a more educated professional workforce to fulfill the type of jobs available starting as early as 2012.

This all leads back to quality educated people in order to survive as the next generation of Americans. As manufacturing jobs continue to leave, and even service jobs are being exported such as customer service and travel agency support staff, we realize the need for a better education of our children. It is only through this venue we will continue to invent and create a future that keeps us one step ahead of the rest of the world. One step ahead

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of our competition! And we will have to do this with a shrinking quality workforce thanks to the unwillingness of previous politicians to make tough decisions.

Finally, a topic just as important as our children's education, Iowa Agriculture. It is imperative Iowa continue its legacy of feeding the world through farming and agricultural high tech innovation. Too little emphasis is put on agriculture, and without it a nation cannot prosper, but with it, a nation can control its destiny! We are bordered by the Miss. and Missouri rivers, a true blessing. One of the most fertile land sites in the world! We have used it to our advantage through crop development, advanced agricultural technology, including nano technology, and exportation of our advanced knowledge throughout the world. Instead of just feeding the world, we are teaching them how to feed themselves!

There are many topics and issues I could talk about this evening, Fair Share, Iowa Power Fund, Health Care and Property Tax relief, but I have a whole year to do this. Most of you know I love to share my opinions to those who will listen, so I will leave you with this one: It is not necessary to continually raise taxes – it is as simple as setting practical priorities, implementing sound business practices, and applying good common sense.

So let's enjoy some food, music, and each others company!

And thank you all so much for your support tonight and in the coming months!