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NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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## UNEMPLOYMENT UPDATE

### DEMOCRATS' LATEST MULTIPLE CHOICE PLAN AN OFFER WE CAN REFUSE; DEMS' PARTISAN DEMAGOGUERY DENYING EXTENDED BENEFITS TO UNEMPLOYED

YESTERDAY ONE DEMOCRAT TERMED SENATOR MITCHELL'S PROPOSAL "AN OFFER THE PRESIDENT CAN'T REFUSE." WE OUGHT TO REMEMBER WHERE THAT PHRASE ORIGINATED. IT WAS IN THE FILM "THE GODFATHER," AND THE "OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE" WAS THE ONE WHERE THE GUY HELD THE GUN TO YOUR HEAD AND SAID, "SIGN -- OR ELSE."

THAT'S THE WAY THE DEMOCRATS HAVE BEEN PLAYING THIS ONE. CRUELLY USING THE PLIGHT OF THE UNEMPLOYED, AND THE UNPOPULARITY OF FOREIGN AID, AS A DOUBLE-BARRELED POLITICAL "GUN" AT GEORGE BUSH'S HEAD.

WELL, THIS IS AN OFFER WE CAN, AND DO, REFUSE -- AT LEAST THE WAY IT IS LAID OUT NOW. AS THE DEMOCRATS ARE FINDING OUT, THIS "GUN" IS LOADED WITH BLANKS.

THEY CLAIM THEY ARE PRESENTING A "CAFETERIA" PLAN OF THREE CHOICES. IF WE WERE CONTESTANTS ON THE "PRICE IS RIGHT," WE'D ASK TO SEE "DOOR NUMBER FOUR," WHICH WOULD HAVE SOME REAL OPTIONS -- BENEFITS WE CAN AFFORD; DELIVERED NOW, WHEN WE NEED THEM -- AND NOT AFTER WEEKS OF PARTISAN POSTURING AND WRANGLING; AND WITH AN HONEST MECHANISM TO PAY FOR THEM.

THE "THREE DOORS" UP THERE NOW DON'T DO THE TRICK.

#### EMERGENCY DECLARATION A BUDGET AGREEMENT COP OUT

FOR GOOD REASON, THE PRESIDENT HAS ALREADY REJECTED ONE OF THEIR SO-CALLED "CHOICES" -- DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE DOESN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH THIS SERIOUS PROBLEM. IT MEANS HE WANTS TO DEAL WITH IT RESPONSIBLY.

IF WE "COP OUT" EVERY TIME WE FACE A PROBLEM BY CALLING IT AN "EMERGENCY," JUST SO WE CAN AVOID THE DISCIPLINE OF THE BUDGET AGREEMENT, WE CAN THROW INTO THE TRASH CAN NOT ONLY THAT AGREEMENT, BUT THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN. ASK ANY UNEMPLOYED PERSON IF HE OR SHE WOULD LIKE THEIR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS EXTENDED, AND THEY WILL UNDERSTANDABLY SAY YES. ASK THEM IF THEY WANT IT DONE ON THEIR CHILD'S OR GRANDCHILD'S CREDIT CARD, AND SEE WHAT THEY SAY THEN.

#### BENTSEN PROPOSAL NEEDS WORK

THE SECOND SO-CALLED "CHOICE," BASED ON SENATOR BENTSEN'S PROPOSAL, IS ALSO UNACCEPTABLE AS IT IS CURRENTLY CONSTRUCTED -- ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME PARTS OF IT THAT CAN BE ONE "STARTING POINT" FOR DISCUSSIONS. THAT'S SOMETHING WE ARE LOOKING AT RIGHT NOW.

#### PLAYING FOREIGN AID FAVORITES

BUT MAYBE THE MOST BOGUS ITEM ON THIS "CAFETERIA" MENU IS THE PROPOSED "FREEZE" ON FOREIGN AID. DON'T GET ME WRONG. SOME OF US HAVING BEEN SAYING FOR A LONG TIME THAT WE NEED TO LOOK AT REDISTRIBUTING, OR CUTTING, FOREIGN AID; AND THERE CERTAINLY ISN'T MUCH SUPPORT ANYWHERE FOR MAKING BIG INCREASES. THAT'S WHY THE DEMOCRATS' PLAN TO SEND A BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF "GOLDEN PARACHUTES" TO THE SOVIET UNION TO RETRAIN COMMUNIST AIRMEN HAS SUDDENLY DROPPED OFF THE SCOPE. IT WAS CLEARLY A LIBERAL "LEAP" BEFORE YOU "LOOK" -- "ACT" BEFORE YOU "THINK" -- IDEA.

BUT IF WE WANT TO CUT FOREIGN AID -- FOR THIS OR ANY OTHER GOOD REASON -- I THINK THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL WANT US TO DO IT RESPONSIBLY, FAIRLY, AND EQUITABLY. I DON'T THINK THEY'RE GOING TO "BUY" THE MITCHELL APPROACH, WHICH SAYS THAT SOME FOREIGN AID IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS HELPING OUR UNEMPLOYED -- THAT FOREIGN AID CAN'T BE CUT, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT IT EATS UP HALF THE FOREIGN AID BUDGET -- BUT THE REST GOES ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK; AN APPROACH THAT SETS UP THE WORLD INTO "FIRST CLASS" AND "SECOND CLASS" COUNTRIES; AN APPROACH WHICH SAYS THAT A COUPLE OF COUNTRIES ARE SO SPECIAL THEY SHOULD BE "FENCED," BUT THE REST OF THE WORLD JUST ISN'T IN THEIR LEAGUE. AMERICANS WHO HAVE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN GREECE, OR POLAND, OR BLACK AFRICA, OR LATIN AMERICA, OR SOUTHEAST ASIA ARE GOING TO WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, AND WHAT MAKES THE NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF A COUPLE OF OTHER COUNTRIES SO MUCH MORE URGENT THAN THEIR OWN.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT -- IF WE HAD BEEN ABLE TO RESIST THE TEMPTATION OF PARTISANSHIP AND DEMAGOGUERY -- WE WOULD ALREADY HAVE HAD A GOOD, AFFORDABLE UNEMPLOYMENT PACKAGE ON THE PRESIDENT'S DESK AND, IN FACT, PROBABLY ALREADY IN LAW.

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