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NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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## DEMOCRAT DISARRAY

### DEADLINE APPROACHES FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH PACKAGE; DEMOCRATS OUT OF STEP WITH THEIR FRONT RUNNER TSONGAS

THREE WEEKS AGO, PRESIDENT BUSH CHALLENGED CONGRESS -- REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS -- TO ENACT HIS ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN, A PACKAGE OF TAX INCENTIVES DESIGNED TO HELP STIMULATE THE ECONOMY, AND TO GET AMERICA MOVING AGAIN.

IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, THE PRESIDENT CALLED ON CONGRESS TO WORK WITH HIM, IN A SPIRIT OF BIPARTISANSHIP, TO DELIVER FOR THE GOOD OF THE COUNTRY. HE ASKED CONGRESS TO PUT PARTISANSHIP ASIDE, EVEN IN AN ELECTION YEAR. THEN HE CHALLENGED CONGRESS TO DO SOME THINGS IT'S NOT USED TO DOING: ACTING QUICKLY, AND MEETING A DEADLINE -- A DEADLINE THAT IS NOW ONLY 31 DAYS AWAY.

### EMBARRASS THE PRESIDENT

WELL, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HEARD THE PRESIDENT LOUD AND CLEAR, AND THEY HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR CONGRESS TO GET THE JOB DONE. IF CONGRESS DIDN'T DO ITS WORK, THE PRESIDENT SAID -- QUOTE -- "FROM THE DAY AFTER THAT, IF IT MUST BE, THE BATTLE IS JOINED".

UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE ALREADY WITNESSED THE FIRST VIOLATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S CEASEFIRE BY DEMOCRATS WHO APPARENTLY HAVE NO OTHER STRATEGY THAN TO EMBARRASS THE PRESIDENT AT ANY COST. NO MATTER WHAT THEY TELL YOU, IT'S CLEAR NOW THAT SOME DEMOCRATS HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO INTENTION OF COOPERATING WITH THE PRESIDENT, NOR ANY INTEREST IN WORKING OUT A BIPARTISAN PLAN TO HELP THE AMERICAN PEOPLE: NO INTEREST IN SAVING JOBS IF THEY HAVE TO SHARE CREDIT WITH THE PRESIDENT; NO INTEREST IN HELPING BUSINESSES UP AND DOWN MAIN STREET IF IT MEANS ADMITTING THE PRESIDENT MIGHT BE RIGHT; AND NO INTEREST IN PUMPING UP THE ECONOMY IF IT MEANS VOTING WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR A CHANGE.

### DEMOCRAT DISARRAY -- THE TSONGAS FACTOR

THE TRUTH IS, WHEN PRESIDENT BUSH OUTLINED HIS PLAN FOR AMERICA, HIS CRITICS WERE CAUGHT WITH THEIR PLANS DOWN.

AND DESPITE ALL THE RECENT SCRAMBLING BY DEMOCRATS -- MOST OF IT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, BACKED BY A HEALTHY DOSE OF LEAKS -- THERE IS STILL NO CONSENSUS ON THEIR SIDE ON JUST ABOUT ANYTHING ...EXCEPT, OF COURSE, TO EMBARRASS THE PRESIDENT AT ANY COST.

THE TRUTH IS, DEMOCRATS ARE IN DISARRAY, FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE TO CAPITOL HILL. CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS ARE NOW CLEARLY OUT OF STEP WITH THEIR NEW PRESIDENTIAL FRONT-RUNNER, PAUL TSONGAS. IN FACT, HE HAS LEFT THEM IN THE DUST WHEN IT COMES TO THE ECONOMY. PAUL TSONGAS IS CALLING ON HIS FELLOW LIBERALS TO WAKE UP -- TO ABANDON THEIR CYNICAL CLASS WARFARE STRATEGY, AND TO GIVE UP THEIR TRADITIONAL ANTI-BUSINESS, ANTI-CONSUMER, AND ANTI-GROWTH AGENDA. THAT COMMONSENSE ECONOMIC MESSAGE MAY BE PICKING UP STEAM ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL, BUT IT IS FALLING ON DEAF EARS INSIDE THE DEMOCRATS' CLOSED-DOOR INNER SANCTUM.

### NEW NATIONWIDE POLL: DEFICIT #1, NOT TAX CUTS

BUT IF SOME DEMOCRATS DON'T WANT TO SUPPORT THEIR NEW PRESIDENTIAL FRONT-RUNNER, PERHAPS THEY SHOULD TAKE SOME DIRECTION FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR A CHANGE. IN A NEW NATIONWIDE POLL BY THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, AMERICANS SAY THEY ARE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SOARING FEDERAL DEFICIT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND JOBS THAN THEY ARE ABOUT SOME TAX BREAK COOKED UP IN AN ELECTION YEAR. THE HEADLINE OVER THE TIMES POLL SAYS IT ALL: "TAX REDUCTIONS ARE NOT AMERICANS' TOP PRIORITY".

WHEN ASKED BY THE L.A. TIMES POLL WHICH ISSUES WERE MOST IMPORTANT IN THIS YEAR'S PRESIDENTIAL RACE, 33% SAID THE ECONOMY GENERALLY, 28% MENTIONED UNEMPLOYMENT, 21% CITED HEALTH CARE, AND ONLY 6% MENTIONED TAXES. JOHN BRENNAN, DIRECTOR OF THE TIMES POLL, WAS ON TARGET WHEN HE SUMMED UP THE POLL THIS WAY: "IF BUSH

(MORE)