

Bob Dole



NEWS

U.S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOLE INVITES TSONGAS TO WASHINGTON

FREE TRIP OFFERED TO BRING MAINSTREAM MESSAGE
TO CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS

FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER BOB DOLE'S REMARKS ON THE SENATE FLOOR SHORTLY AFTER 11:00 AM:

SENATOR DOLE: I WOULD LIKE TO USE JUST A MINUTE OR TWO OF MY LEADER TIME TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO MY GOOD FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, PAUL TSONGAS. AND I HAVE ANOTHER CHART HERE IN THE FORM OF A GIFT CERTIFICATE TO PAUL TSONGAS: ONE FREE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, AND THAT WOULD BE TOURIST CLASS, ALL EXPENSES PAID WITH ONE NIGHT'S LODGING.

THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WOULD BE TO CONFER WITH MY COLLEAGUES ON THE OTHER SIDE, PARTICULARLY THE LEADERSHIP ON THE OTHER SIDE, TO CONVINCE THEM TO ABANDON CLASS WARFARE, TO GIVE UP THEIR ANTI-GROWTH, THEIR ANTI-BUSINESS, THEIR ANTI-CONSUMER AGENDA.

I THINK MR. TSONGAS, AS THE CLEAR FRONTRUNNER FOLLOWING THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY, IS OUT THERE MAKING SENSE. HE IS BEING LISTENED TO BY PEOPLE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND ALL ACROSS AMERICA. DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENTS.

I CANNOT THINK OF A BETTER SERVICE HE COULD PERFORM TODAY - IF HE CAN GET AWAY TODAY OR MAYBE TOMORROW OR OVER THE WEEKEND - TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO SIT DOWN WITH THE LEADERS IN THE SENATE, THE HOUSE, AND TALK TO THEM IN THE SAME WAY HE HAS BEEN TALKING TO THE VOTERS.

HE HAS BEEN OUT THERE WITH THE REAL PEOPLE. THEY UNDERSTAND HIS MESSAGE. THAT IS WHY HE WAS THE CLEAR WINNER IN YESTERDAY'S NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY.

SENATOR JOHNSTON: IS THIS AN ENDORSEMENT?

SENATOR DOLE: IT IS AN ENDORSEMENT FOR HIM TO COME TO WASHINGTON, WHICH MAY NOT BE SOMETHING HE WANTS TO DO, BECAUSE HE IS SORT OF RUNNING AS THE OUTSIDER.

IN ANY EVENT, I HOPE MR. TSONGAS WILL MAKE HIMSELF AVAILABLE. WE HAVE A VERY SMALL FUND ON THIS SIDE. WE ARE A MINORITY GROUP AND DO NOT HAVE A LOT OF MONEY. BUT WE HAVE ENOUGH TO RAKE UP FOR A PLANE TRIP AND MAYBE ONE NIGHT'S LODGING AND MAYBE EVEN INCLUDE ONE AIDE. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO HOST A MEETING IN MY OFFICE, IF WE CANNOT PREVAIL ON THE OTHERS TO HOST A MEETING. HE IS A FORMER COLLEAGUE, AND I KNOW HE WILL BE TREATED WITH GREAT RESPECT AND COURTESY IF HE COMES. I CONGRATULATE HIM ON HIS VICTORY, BUT PRIMARILY ON THE MESSAGE. ONCE THAT MESSAGE REACHES CONGRESS, WE MAY HAVE AN ECONOMIC GROWTH PACKAGE THAT MAKES SOME SENSE, RATHER THAN NONSENSE.

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AND CONGRESS ARE INTERESTED IN INCREASING CONSUMER CONFIDENCE, THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT FEARS OF UNEMPLOYMENT, THE PERCEPTION THAT UNEMPLOYMENT IS RAMPANT AND THAT PEOPLE'S JOBS ARE AT STAKE. THIS SEEMS TO BE MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN SOME KIND OF TAX RELIEF."

NEVERTHELESS, SOME DEMOCRATS WILL INSIST ON EMBARRASSING THE PRESIDENT, AND INSIST ON PUSHING ELECTION-YEAR TAX CUTS THAT WILL ADD ABOUT 55 CENTS TO A DOLLAR-TEN A DAY TO THE AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILY. NOW, HELPING AMERICANS IS A GREAT IDEA, BUT GIVING THEM A FEW QUARTERS A DAY WHILE YOU'RE FORCING THE FEDERAL DEFICIT THROUGH THE ROOF, KEEPING THEM ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT LINES AND DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO CREATE NEW JOBS JUST DOESN'T ADD UP TO MOST FOLKS.

SOAK-THE-RICH PHONIES

BUT WE CAN SEE WHAT'S COMING: SOME DEMOCRATS RUNNING TO THE MEDIA, WHINING ABOUT HOW REPUBLICANS ARE "PROTECTING THE RICH", HOW THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATE JUST DOESN'T CARE ABOUT DOMESTIC ISSUES, AND THAT DEMOCRATS ARE THE 'GOOD GUYS', READY TO SOAK THE RICH, SOCK IT TO BUSINESS, SAVE THE MIDDLE-CLASS AND ALL OF THE OTHER HYPE WE'VE BEEN HEARING FROM THE POLITICS-FIRST CROWD.

WHILE WE WELCOME OUR DEMOCRAT FRIENDS' NEWFOUND CONCERN FOR THE MIDDLE-CLASS, IT'S THE SAME PAINFUL POLITICAL STRATEGY WE SAW WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE SO-CALLED LUXURY TAX -- SO-CALLED BECAUSE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO "SOAK THE RICH" WHEN THEY BUY THEIR YACHTS AND CARS AND AIRPLANES. BUT THEN REALITY HIT, AND THE LUXURY TAX TURNED INTO A "WORKERS TAX": WHEN THE RICH STOPPED BUYING THE YACHTS, THE CARS AND THE PLANES, ASSEMBLY LINES CLOSED, AND GUESS WHAT, IT WAS THE MIDDLE-CLASS WORKER HEADING TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT LINE. THIS IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF POLITICS-FIRST AGENDA AMERICA DOESN'T NEED.

BUT HERE WE GO AGAIN: SOME DEMOCRATS ARE NOW PROMOTING ANOTHER 'SOUNDS GOOD' IDEA THAT DELIVERS MUCH LESS THAN PROMISED. THIS TIME, IT'S A REDUCTION OF ONE-PERCENT IN THE TAX RATE CORPORATIONS PAY. YES, IT SOUNDS GOOD, BUT WHAT DOES IT REALLY DO?

WELL, IT DOES NOTHING TO PROMOTE GROWTH, AND NOTHING TO CREATE JOBS. IT IS AN UNTARGETED GIVEAWAY THAT BRINGS NOTHING IN RETURN. IT'S A BONUS FOR BUSINESSES MAKING A PROFIT -- MANY OF THEM BIG BUSINESSES -- BUT IT DOES ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO GIVE A BREAK TO ALL THE BUSINESSES WHO ARE STRUGGLING, WHO ARE LOOKING FOR AN INCENTIVE TO INVEST, TO PURCHASE NEW EQUIPMENT AND TO CREATE JOBS. THESE STRUGGLING BUSINESSES ARE LOOKING FOR SOME REAL HELP FROM WASHINGTON, NOT AN ELECTION-YEAR PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN.

PRESIDENT'S PLAN WILL HELP ALL AMERICANS

THE GOOD NEWS IS, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE WAY AHEAD OF CONGRESS ON THESE ISSUES, WHICH IS WHY I'M CONFIDENT THEY WILL SEE THROUGH ALL OF THESE GAMES AND GIMMICKS.

AND THAT'S WHERE PRESIDENT BUSH IS HEAD AND SHOULDERS ABOVE THE CROWD. HE'S OUTLINED AN ANTI-RECESSIONARY BLUEPRINT FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH, JOB CREATION AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. AND IF WE MEET HIS CHALLENGE, THAT PROGRAM WILL BE IN PLACE BEFORE THE END OF NEXT MONTH, IN TIME TO HELP ALL AMERICANS.

BUT LET'S FACE IT, THE ONLY JOBS PROGRAM SOME DEMOCRATS SEEM TO BE PUSHING IS A JOBS PROTECTION PROGRAM FOR CONGRESSIONAL INCUMBENTS -- IT'S POLITICS FIRST, POLITICS SECOND, AND AMERICA LAST.

NO WONDER THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE FED-UP WITH CONGRESS.

31 DAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SO, IT IS NOW 31 DAYS AND COUNTING. 31 MORE DAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR AMERICA. THE CHOICE IS PRETTY CLEAR: CONGRESS CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, OR PART OF THE PROBLEM.

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BOB DOLE GIFT CERTIFICATE:

To: PAUL TSONGAS

1 FREE Trip to Washington
(All Expenses Paid)

Purpose: Convince Fellow Democrats
to Abandon Class Warfare Strategy; Give Up
Anti-Growth, Anti-Business, Anti-Consumer Agenda

Bob Dole
