

REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

TRIBUTE TO ROGER JEPSEN

HOTEL FORT DES MOINES

DES MOINES, IOWA

FEBRUARY 16, 1979

I'M DELIGHTED TO BE IN IOWA AND TO PAY TRIBUTE TO ONE OF THE MOST VIGOROUS REPUBLICAN PARTIES IN THE COUNTRY. YOU HAVE A DISTINGUISHED GOVERNOR IN BOB RAY, AND A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE RANKS OF COMMON SENSE SENATORS IN ROGER JEPSEN. AND, BEFORE I GO, I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE ME IF I LEAVE BEHIND AN IDEA ABOUT HOW TO MAKE THAT PARTY EVEN STRONGER.

SENATOR JEPSEN'S DEMOCRATIC COLLEAGUE IN THE SENATE HAS SUGGESTED THAT ANY DEMOCRAT WHO SUPPORTED A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BALANCE THE FEDERAL BUDGET DOES NOT BELONG IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

-2-

NOW, I NEVER KNEW THAT PARTIES EJECTED MEMBERS FOR WANTING TO BALANCE THE BUDGET, ALTHOUGH, COME TO THINK OF IT, SENATOR CULVER DOES RAISE A POINT FOR THE REST OF US TO PONDER.

TO BEGIN WITH, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE PEOPLE OF IOWA SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A WORKABLE CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITATION ON SPENDING. THE LATEST NBC NEWS POLL PUTS THE NATIONWIDE FIGURE AT 70%. BUT MERE POPULARITY DOES NOT MAKE AN IDEA NECESSARILY CORRECT.

-3-

A CAP ON FEDERAL SPENDING, COMBINED WITH A CAP ON TAXATION, IS RIGHT, NOT BECAUSE IT IS POPULAR, BUT BECAUSE GOVERNMENT TODAY IS INTRUDING INTO TOO MANY LIVES, DRAINING OFF TOO MUCH CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENT AND JOBS, DOING TOO LITTLE CONSTRUCTIVE WORK WITH TOO MANY HARDEARNED DOLLARS. SOMEWHERE IT HAS TO STOP. ROGER JEPSEN KNOWS THAT. THAT'S ONE REASON THE PEOPLE OF IOWA SENT HIM TO THE SENATE LAST FALL.

BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE THOUSANDS OF IOWA DEMOCRATS WHO MR. CULVER WISHES TO DISOWN AS CLOSET REPUBLICANS? PERHAPS, AS REPUBLICANS WHO BELIEVE IN THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF CONVERSION, WE OUGHT TO INVITE THOSE DISINHERITED DEMOCRATS INTO OUR PARTY. WE WANT EVERYONE IN IOWA TO BE HAPPY. IF MR. CULVER FEELS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH DIVERSITY, WITH DEBATE AND DIFFERING OPINIONS, THEN REPUBLICANS CERTAINLY DON'T.



-4-

SO TO IOWA'S DEMOCRATS, THOSE OF YOU WHO AGREE WITH ME THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE SAME FINANCIAL FOOTING AS THE PRIVATE SECTOR OR IOWA'S FAMILY BUDGETERS, I SAY WELCOME ABOARD. WE HAVE A LOT MORE IN COMMON THAN YOU THINK. FOR ONE THING, WE DISAGREE WITH MR. CULVER'S DEFINITION OF DEMOCRACY. WE BELIEVE IN IT.