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Conservatism, The American Way



By Clif Parks

My Fellow Americans,

We are truly blessed to live in the greatest nation on this earth. That is a realization that I know many of us often take for granted. We frequently do not realize how richly we are blessed to call ourselves Americans, nor do we comprehend the sacrifices that have been and continue to be made to preserve our freedom. This is of course with the exception of those who have served in our armed forces. As our military service men and women defend our national interest around the world, it is our duty as American civilians, to not only thank our Lord, Jesus Christ, for the blessing to live in this great nation but also, to proactively defend the principles on which our nation was founded. Those principles outlined in our founding documents are those that we as conservative Republicans know must be defended to preserve this great nation.

As we move into this critical election cycle, we must not become complacent but instead take a proactive role in advancing our conservative ideals of limited government, freedom to speak, freedom to bear arms, personal responsibility and a strong national defense reminiscent of Ronald Reagan's Administration's doctrine of "Peace through Strength". These principles and rights underlie the fabric of this great nation and are a necessity for the preservation of our country. If we allow these ideals to be chipped away at or diminished by our opposition, the liberal establishment, we are allowing the foundation on which our nation is built to be destroyed.

Unlike our opposition that seeks to divide our nation by class and ethnic heritage, in their personal quest for power, we as conservative Republicans see our citizenry as Americans, not as a series of special interest groups. What has made this nation so great is the ability for any man or woman with an inspiration, a willingness to work hard and honestly to truly achieve the American dream. Justice Felipe Reyna of the Texas 10th Court of Appeals in Waco is a prime example of someone who has truly achieved the American dream from the humblest of begins, even today. He, the son of a migrant farm worker, worked from the being a janitor to a sitting justice in one of the highest courts in the state of Texas today.

Our nation was not made great by creating dependents of the state through social programs as the liberal establishment seeks to continually preserve and expand but instead, by the hard work and inspiration of the American citizenry. The institution of government has not made this nation great but the freedom of it citizenry to work hard and to achieve their personal dreams for the benefit of all.

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Conservatism, The American Way (cont')

A prime example of the threat we face today is depicted by both Barack Hussein Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton who seek to divide our citizenry by class and ethnic heritage in their pursuit of personal power. Their liberal promises, yet again, include another government-sponsored program of a socialized healthcare system. It will come to be if we allow it to come to fruition, just one more in a long line of inefficient government-run programs costing the tax payers of this nation billions of dollars annually.

I encourage you to join me and our fellow Republicans in the renewed fight to preserve and advance those principles that have made this nation so great and we, as conservative Republicans, hold so dear. We must work hard this election and encourage our friends to support conservative candidates such as Senator John Cornyn, Justice Rex Davis, and Rob Curnock. The election of individuals such as these is necessary to preserve and protect the United State of America that all hold so dear.

Thank you and God Bless America!

Clif Parks

President

Socialized Healthcare, A Disaster Waiting to Happen

*Senator Hillary Clinton's Announced Universal HealthCare Plan
By Katy Robertson*

In September of 2007 Democratic Candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton announced a \$110 billion health care reform plan that would require all Americans to have health insurance. From her website, the 'American Health Choices Plan' is comprised of four items:

- Offering new coverage choices for the insured and uninsured and guaranteeing quality coverage;*
- Lowering premiums by removing hidden taxes, stressing prevention and increasing security by ensuring that job loss or family illness won't lead to a loss of coverage;*
- Promoting shared responsibility among individuals, providers, employers and government, and forcing insurance and drug companies to end discrimination based on pre-existing conditions and price gauging; and*
- Ensuring affordable health coverage for all by providing tax relief, limiting premium payments to a percentage of income and strengthening Medicaid.*

Federal subsidies would be provided for those who are not able to afford insurance, and large businesses would be expected to provide or help pay for their employees' insurance. However, this plan would require government mandates, a definite increase in taxes, and a stray from the free-market healthcare economy. In the past, competition, individual ingenuity, and profit motives have always lead to greater cost control and effectiveness of programs in any market. Healthy people who take care of themselves will inevitably pay for those who do not make their health a priority. I also believe it is fair to say there has not been a single government-run agency that could be described as efficient—should we allow our government to run something as complex as healthcare? Hillary fervently denies that she is socializing medicine and simply stands for universal health care. With this plan, insurance companies would face the same kind of federal regulation as firms selling stocks and bonds and tax payers were certainly see a spike. I would consider this govern-



UPCOMING EVENTS

Nest General Meeting
Rob Curnock,
Congressional District 17
Candidate, Keynote
Speaker

May 19, 2008
C&J's BBQ Restaurant,
Bryan Texas

*"When you see all that rhetorical smoke billowing from the Democrats, well ladies and gentleman, I'd follow the example of their nominee; don't inhale."
- Ronald Reagan at the Republican National Convention, 1992.*

Socialized Healthcare, A Disaster Waiting to Happen (cont')

ment administered and public funding—the very definition of socialized medicine. If you would like to take a look into the crystal ball if the USA does indeed subscribe to universal health care, simply look at Canada's Publicly financed health insurance system. This is one of the only industrialized countries today where privately financed purchases of medical services are banned. Canada is also the only country where a dog can get a hip replacement in under a week and it is not uncommon for a human to wait two to three years.

While I agree that a healthcare reform is urgent, I think it is important to remember that just because an individual is not insured does not mean that they cannot receive health care. Many non-profit facilities and government-run hospitals provide services to those who do not subscribe to health insurance and from EMTALA (Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act) it is illegal to refuse emergency medical care because an individual is uninsured. Lastly, lets hope that healthcare does not follow the path of social security where a benefit is taken as a right (not a privilege) by the public to the point where it is near impossible to reform even though it is long out of control.

"The Texas Plan" for the Republican Presidential Primary

By Clif Parks

The current Republican Presidential Primary system is not selecting the candidate most representative of the average Republican voter on a national basis. The current process enables voters from a select group of small states (e.g. Iowa, New Hampshire, etc.) to have an undue influence on the selection process of the Republican presidential nominee. It has resulted in the 2008 Republican nominee for President being an individual that is generally not aligned with many of the views of the party's conservative base.

As a result of these concerns a plan has been set forth by the Republican Party of Texas' National Committee Man, Bill Crocker. The plan, "The Texas Plan", will be presented to the national party as a solution for making the Republican primary process more representative of our party's views on a National level instead of the views of the select group of states that happen to have their primaries first. If adopted the plan would result in a candidate more reflective of the party on a national basis and as a result more competitive in the general election.

The plan proposes to divide the states and territories into four equal groups. The groups would rotate in the order they vote each presidential election year so that each has the opportunity to be the first group in the process every fourth presidential election cycle. This will ensure that the debate will not be purely focused on the issues for a single state or region but the nation as a whole.

Each group of states will have approximately the same number of states, number of electoral votes, Republican National Convention delegates, and contain a balance of predominately Republican and Democrat states. The groups of states will also be comprised of contiguous clusters of states to facilitate the campaigning efforts of candidates.

The states and territories in the first group may select their presidential nominee at any time during or after the month of February. The second, third, and fourth groups may select their presidential candidate during or after March, April, and May respectively.

The group that goes first in the cycle would rotate for each presidential primary. For instance, if adopted for the 2012 Republican Presidential Primary the group of states to go first in February of 2012 would rotate to the end of the cycle for the 2016 Presidential primary election and vote during or after May. The group of states that went second, during



Justice Felipe Reyna, Texas 10th Court of Appeal, addressing the 2008 Board Meeting Winter TYRF

"The Texas Plan would result in a candidate that is more reflective of the average Republican voter, more competitive in the General election, and as a result more likely to uphold the principles on which our great nation was founded."



Col. David McIntyre, Director of the Integrative Center for Homeland Security, addressing TYRF 2008 Winter Board Meeting

THE YOUNG CONSERVATIVE VOICE OF THE BRAZOS VALLEY



Roger Williams, former Texas Secretary of State and Chairman, Texas Victory 2008 addressing TYRF 2008 Winter Board Meeting

BRAZOS COUNTY YOUNG
REPUBLICANS
4020 STILLMEADOW DRIVE
BRYAN, TX 77802

www.brazosyr.org

or after April, in 2012 would rotate to the first position in 2016. The other groups would rotate accordingly.

The primary system would be enforced by reducing the delegation's voting strength by 90% if any state or territory held their primary before their appointed time in the rotation, if the delegates for the primary were required to vote in accordance with the results of the presidential nominee selection process. This penalty would not reduce the voting strength for any area to less than two delegates, if penalized.

States or territories would still be free under the Texas Plan to hold non-binding primaries, caucuses, or straw polls that are effectively "beauty contests" anytime they wish. But, the process by which a presidential candidate is actually selected would be constrained by the rules of the Texas Plan, if adopted by the Republican National Committee.

The Texas Plan would result in a candidate that is more reflective of the average Republican voter, more competitive in the General election, and as a result more likely to uphold the principles on which our great nation was founded. The proposal is an encouraging breath of fresh air and I encourage you to voice your support for the proposal to your party officials.

Texas Young Republican Federation Winter Board hosted by Brazos County Young Republicans... A Big Success!

The TYRF Winter Board Meeting was a big success for the Brazos County Young Republicans. Roger Williams, former Texas Secretary of State; Felipe Reyna, Justice 10th Court of Appeals, and Col. David McIntyre, Director of the Integrative Center for Homeland Security at Texas A&M all spoke at the event.

Young Republicans traveled to College Station from across Texas to attend. The board meeting also included a tour of the George Bush Presidential Library and grass roots training sessions from the Texas Republican Party on Voter Vault and a myriad of other tools that we will find useful in this election cycle.

