

Introduction of Rick Santorum (R-PA) (tape)

I consider it a great privilege to introduce my best friend in the United States House of Representatives, Rick Santorum, United States Senator. Two years ago, more than two years ago, two and a half years ago, when I was thinking about running for the United States Congress, it was Rick Santorum who invited me down to Washington, who took me around the town and introduced me to leaders and persuaded me to run. It has been a joy for me to serve with Rick Santorum in the United States House of Representatives and I have to tell you why that is. This is a man (loud noise/laughter/applause) (You can jam our microphone, Wofford, but you can't stop our campaign!) Rick Santorum is a man of incredible principle (loud noise) (Maybe I should send this microphone over to) Rick Santorum is a man of incredible principle and every day and every night on the floor of the United States House of Representatives, when we're fighting the fight to change the direction of this country, I see Rick Santorum go from member to member to try to solidify our focus and always he says the same thing, "It's the principle that counts, it's the principle that counts, don't be afraid to vote the principle, the country will respect us for it." He has led principled fight after principled fight in the United States Congress. This is a race about whether we're going backwards to the old tax-and-spend philosophy that Harris Wofford is frozen in time with, or whether we're going to go forward with the leadership of a guy of the caliber of Rick Santorum who understands that it is time for the federal government to get out of our lives and move the power back closer to the people, and let us make decisions for ourselves in our own communities where we do it best. Rick Santorum is in the fight of his life. This is going to be the squeaker. This is going to be the tough one. And Harris Wofford's polls right now, Harris Wofford's campaign ads run by James Carville, who you remember took Bill Scranton and gave us Bob Casey, took Dick Thornburgh and gave us Harris Wofford, took George Bush and gave us Bill Clinton--he's now trying to take Rick Santorum and give us back Harris Wofford, and we don't want Harris Wofford back (applause). Harris Wofford is trying to he has gone to the oldest and the cruelest trick of them all, once again trying to scare the senior citizens that "the Republicans are coming." I have served with this guy for two years and he has stood with the senior citizens of America vote after vote after vote and I'm telling you, that I trust Rick Santorum and the senior citizens of Buck County trust Rick Santorum to take care of their social security system. He believes in it; he will protect it and he will protect the future of this country. And I give you the next United States senator from Pennsylvania, Rick Santorum (applause).

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"two careers" & his 17th month

Jim Greenwood (Ben Salem meeting)

Thank you, it's a nice introduction. It's good to see you all this morning in this great big crowd. As I travel throughout our county and join a meeting like this at the local level everywhere, I look out and I see all the faces of the men and the women, the young and the middle-aged and the older and the kids, it's like a textbook civic lesson.

You know, this is the greatest country in the world. We have this fantastic Constitution that was written several hundred years ago to make this nation work. But that document is just a piece of paper in a museum unless American citizens get out of their beds in the morning day after day and say, 'We will be that small group of people who breaths life into this document. We will make it work.' Not many people do. Ninety-nine point nine percent of the people won't come out and put up the signs and hand out the literature and get to know the candidates and do the hard work of democracy. But that's what you do. And you make this country work and my hat is off to you. Thank you for doing that.

If I can give you a little bit of perspective on the national scene. You know, the Democratic party has controlled the United States House of Representatives, where I have been working for the last couple of years, for 40 years. Forty years--every hour of every day for the past 40 years--yhey have controlled the United States Senate for longer than that my two brief years, the mid-80's under Reagan. And where are we? Where has that Congress taken us?

They have taken us to a place where they are very comfortable. They have figured out that they can get votes by selling our children's future and creating trillions of dollars worth of debt. They have figured out that if they leave the welfare system just as it is, in all of its rottenness and all of its tendency to undermine our society, that they won't rock any boats or lose any votes in the urban areas. They have figured out that if they can develop a special interest tax system, make all of the money flow to special interests, money flow to them, they'll stay in office. And it's been a good strategy for them--ruined the country just about--but it's worked for them for 40 years.

This year, though, something else happened. And that is that Bill Clinton, who got elected in 1992 said, 'Oh, I'm a different kind of Democrat. I want to reform the special interest system. I want to balance the budget. I want a line item veto. I want to reform the welfare system, we're going to end welfare as we know it.' A lot of Americans were a little confused about things. They weren't so happy with George Bush. They had Ross Perot in there, they decided to give this new Democrat a chance. He got into office and he wasn't a new Democrat. He was an old fashioned Democrat and he took the party whether it was on health care reform or on raising taxes on social security, every program that he tried to push

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through the legislature to the Congress always collapsed and he left the Republicans out of the process. And we Americans may have differences of opinion on issues, but one thing the public is finally understanding, and is up in arms about, is that if you say you're going to be one thing, and you get elected, then you be that thing or we'll throw you out. And so President Clinton has been in a political melt-down, on a downward slide for a number of months now. And that gives us maybe the greatest opportunity in a generation to turn this country around.

We can make Pennsylvania the place that puts the 51st United States Republican senator in place by removing Harris Wofford and electing Rick Santorum. We can be the state that makes that happen. We can be the key stone state. We can elect Tom Ridge and Mark Schweiker and Gene and Tommy and have a Republican House and a Republican Senate and a Republican governor and a Republican Lt. governor and we can turn Pennsylvania around on a dime. They will do that. They will make this a job-friendly state. They will improve the criminal justice system, they will lower taxes and they'll put this state on a sound footing.

All of the polls tell us that we're on the verge of doing that. I've got to tell you a couple of things. Number one, it's tightening up. I talked to Rick Santorum last night at the dinner. It's tightening up. There are some polls that show him ahead. There are some polls that show him behind. The other thing you need to know is that even when the polls say we're ahead, all that it tells us is that if you put the voting machines in the living rooms of the voters on Tuesday, we might win. We might win big. That's not where the voting machines are going to be. They're going to out at the schools, the fire houses, where so many of you will spend the day. And if we don't get our voters out there, we lose.

So what election day has to be about and what the next three-and-a-half days have to be about is just bring those Republican voters and those Independents and those Democrats who are fed up with what they have been promised--when they are promised one thing and given another--and bring them out to the polls. They're ready to do that. But you've got to get them there. And when it comes down to the nuts and bolts on election day, you committee people and volunteers need to be at those polls all 13 hours, from 7 in the morning till 8.

Now Dave Sanco(?) will have for you forms in triplicate with all of the names of the Republican voters and all of their phone numbers. You have to make sure that at every single polling place, there's someone there whose job it is not to just wave at the voters and say good morning. Somebody has to be there to cross out every Republican voter as he or she comes into vote; and then at noon, you tear off the top sheet and you have someone who will take that to, where's it going to be, the Shamony Motor Inn where there

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are phone banks and starting at lunch, they're going to start calling the voters that haven't been crossed off yet. And then you've got the second stage left, where you continue to cross them off in triplicate so you'll have the ones you cross off in the morning will be there, then you start crossing them off and at dinner, that second sheet gets torn off and you go off to the phone bank.

You do that effectively, given the fact that Ben Salem has got a hot race here, we're going to elect Gene, who has campaigned as hard as anybody in the world could. We've got Tommy Tomlinson--and I have a special place in my heart for him--because when he was thinking about not running, I laid a guilt trip on him and said that he was the guy who had to run to hold this Senate seat. He and his wife, his family and all of you have worked so hard for Tommy Tomlinson, there is no reason why Ben Salem Township and Lower South can't have the highest turnout in the district, one of the highest turnouts in the state. And Bucks County should be second only maybe to Erie where Tom Rick comes from in turnout. But if we are the best turn out in the state, we can make the difference in all these local races. We can make the difference in the United States Senate race. We can make the difference in the gubernatorial race.

I think all of these mornings that we've gotten up over time, gotten out of bed, come to these meetings will finally pay off. It'll be worth it. We'll turn around the future of this state, and we'll turn around the future of this country. And we will be proud of ourselves for having done it. Thank you very much.

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