

elections are razor thin. And people, I'm absolutely sure, based on the support that the people of California have given me and the Vice President in the last 8 years and what I feel out there and what I know, that if everyone understood what the differences were, what the stakes are, what the consequences are to families and communities and States in our Nation, that we would prevail.

I'm honored to be here today. I'm honored to be here for Gerrie and for the Vice President and Senator Lieberman. I can tell you that, you know, John Kennedy said once that the Presidency was preeminently a place of decision-making. Half the time over the last 8 years, I've felt like it was a place to see if you could work 19 hours instead of 18 a day. But in the end, you have to make right decisions. And a lot of times, Presidents have gotten in trouble for working too hard, because then they weren't clear enough to make good decisions. On the other hand, hard work is an important part of the job.

And I just want to say about Al Gore—I know I don't have to say this to you, but it's something else you can tell people that I said—experience matters. It matters what you know. It matters how hard you work. It matters whether you have done a lot of this before. And he has had a more positive impact for the American people than anybody who ever served as Vice President before. He makes very good decisions, and he will be a very, very good President.

So please, just every day—don't let those election returns come in Tuesday night and you be sick about the outcome of some election that, you know, 400 or 500 votes made the difference. You've got to look around this room. The people in this room could change 5,000 to 10,000 votes between now and Tuesday. Look in this room—5,000 to 10,000 votes. John Kennedy was elected in the whole country by 100,000 votes.

Now, I'm telling you, every day between now and the election, say, "I want to keep the prosperity going, not risk it. I want to build on the social progress, not reverse it. And we've got to keep building one America. We've got to go forward together, because if we do, the best is still out there. And the choice is clear: Al and Joe and Gerrie."

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:37 p.m. in the Regency Room at the Regency Club. In his remarks, he referred to reception hosts Jeremy Bernard and Marc Nathanson; gay activist and author David Mixner; Antonio R. Villaraigosa, speaker emeritus, California State Assembly; Flo Pickett, Ms. Schipske's life partner; Gov. Gray Davis of California; and Republican Presidential candidate Gov. George W. Bush of Texas. Ms. Schipske was a candidate for California's 38th Congressional District.

Remarks at a Reception for Representative Calvin M. Dooley in Beverly Hills, California

November 2, 2000

The President. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. I'm honored to be here tonight. What Cal Dooley told you is true. He represents a totally different district, lots of big farms. Some of the farms in Cal's district are almost as large as Haim's and Cheryl's backyard. [Laughter] Yes, Cal said he'll bring in a tractor next time he comes to see you here. [Laughter]

I want to thank all of you for being here, and thank Governor Davis and Sharon. They've been with me all day today. We had a meeting with people who are working on the Coordi-

nated Campaign, and then we went to an event for Gerrie Schipske. But before that, we went to a great rally in Watts today, and we had a really good time trying to stir the voters up.

And I'm honored to be here tonight with Cal and Lou Dooley. And I thank the other Members of Congress who are here, Representatives Waxman, Berman, and Becerra, my friends and partners; and Hilda Solis, who will soon be with us in Congress; and Jim Costa, whom I've known for many years.

I was supposed to do this before, and I had to go to the Middle East; we had to put this off. And I wanted to come back to answer Governor Davis' call, trying to make sure that we did as much as we could, not only to make sure that Al Gore and Joe Lieberman would get California's 54 electoral votes and not have to come back in the eleventh hour, but also to help the Members of Congress who are running here.

We have a bona fide chance in five districts now held by Republicans. And we have a real contest in Cal Dooley's district, because it's a rural, agricultural district, and a lot of American voting is cultural. And a lot of the folks in Cal's district like him, but they're sort of not acculturated to voting for Democrats yet. [Laughter] You know, they still give Republicans the rhetorical credit—even though they quadrupled the debt and we got rid of the deficit. You know, there is a disconnect there. But it's a real challenge for him, and he has a formidable opponent who's got a lot of money.

You know, this is the first time in 26 years I've not been on the ballot. I'm not running for anything, for the first time since 1974. And it gives me a certain amount of freedom to say what I think, although I'm trying not to be so free that I imperil either my wife or the Vice President in the election—[laughter]—about saying what I think.

But I want you to know, I really wanted to be here tonight. I'm crazy about Cal Dooley and about his wife. And I feel so grateful that we have people like him who can represent the Democratic Party to rural America, to people who are culturally far more conservative than most of the people in Los Angeles, but who have the same real long-term values and interests that the rest of us do.

And I have always believed that to succeed over the long run, the Democratic Party would have to prove that we could be fiscally responsible and compassionate, that we could be pro-business and pro-labor, that we could be pro-economic growth and pro-environmental preservation.

We have to be a unifying force in the country. And Cal Dooley is all that. We've worked together for years on the Democratic Leadership Council. There is a reason the farm workers endorsed him: Because he cares about every poor kid in his district and believes every single one of them—every boy and girl—ought to have

a chance to live their dreams. And there is a reason that the chairman of Commerce endorsed him: Because he's been an integral part of the new economy that we've worked so hard to build.

People ask me all the time what we did to turn the economy around. We had just three simple ideas: One, get rid of the deficit—it's killing us on interest rates, and it's hurting the private economy; two, sell more American products and services around the world; and three, invest more in the capacity of the American people.

And the one area—it's no secret to anybody that I have not yet succeeded in convincing a vast majority of my party in Congress I was right in was on the second area, the trade area. But Cal Dooley was with me because he could see the farmers that he represented needing those markets, and he could see the positive side of that. I will always be grateful to him for that, because I am convinced that we've done a lot in the last 8 years to build a modern economy.

But I just want to make—I want to close with three quick points, because I know it's late, and a lot of you don't live in this district, but you may live in districts where some of these other people are running, where we've got a chance to win. And it's amazing how close all these races are. And in the Presidential race, there are probably a dozen States that are within two points.

Now, if you look at where we were 8 years ago and where we are today, with the economy, with the declining crime rate and improving environment, improving schools, improving health care, it is not rational that—

[At this point, an audience member had a medical problem.]

The President. Here, do you want to take him off? That's okay. I gave a speech once, and my father-in-law had a heart attack during it. [Laughter] He was rushed to the hospital and had a quadruple heart bypass, and when he woke up, I told him it wasn't that good a speech. [Laughter]

But let me just say this. If you live in any of these places, I can't tell you how close these races are. And I just want you to go out and tell people that there are differences between the parties; they have grave consequences for

our future. And if you want to keep the prosperity going and the social progress going, you'd better vote for Al Gore and Joe Lieberman and Cal Dooley, or whoever else is your Representative in Congress, and Dianne Feinstein.

Because, believe me, the great achievement of the last 8 years is that we have shown again we can all go forward together. We have more millionaires and more billionaires than we ever had before, but we also had, the first time in history, average income has topped \$40,000 with 15 percent increase in earnings. So we can do this.

Thank you for your money. If you can give Cal Dooley any more money, you ought to give him some more money. *[Laughter]* But I'm telling you, this man is very, very important to the national Democratic Party. He helps us reach out to people who normally aren't for

us. He forces all of our Members to think. He brings people together in unique and powerful ways, and he needs to be here. He is a very, very special person, and I'm grateful.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 8:35 p.m. at a private residence. In his remarks, he referred to reception hosts Haim and Cheryl Saban; Gov. Gray Davis of California and his wife, Sharon; Gerrie Schipske and Hilda Solis, candidates for California's 38th and 31st Congressional Districts, respectively; Representative Dooley's wife, Linda (Lou); California State Senator Jim Costa; and Rich Rodriguez, Republican candidate for California's 20th Congressional District. Representative Dooley was a candidate for reelection in California's 20th Congressional District.

Remarks at a Friends of Jane Harman Reception in Beverly Hills November 2, 2000

Well, thank you very much. I have had a wonderful time tonight. And after Alex Winnick gave his speech, I thought, there's nothing for the rest of us to say. *[Laughter]* He made the case for Jane. Thank you very much, Alex. And I thank you, Gary, and thank you, Karen, for having us here. I would like to hear the whole history of this building. I wish these walls could talk. This might be one of the tamer events it would speak of. *[Laughter]* Gary Winnick has been a friend of mine for some time now, and I'm quite thrilled by the success that Global Crossing has had. And it's interesting to me and I think it's fitting that they're now housed in this historic site.

I'd like to thank Governor Davis and Sharon for being such good friends to Hillary and me. I think Gray has been a great leader for California. And I thank him very, very much for all the support he's given to me over the years and all the work we've done together. And you might be interested to know, even though I have just 11 weeks left, even today in the car he was grinding on me to do one last thing—*[laughter]*—for California before I left office. And eventually I'll say yes just to be relieved

of the pain of having Gray work on me. *[Laughter]*

I want to thank Jane and Sidney for being great friends. I've been in their home in Washington. I've been in Sidney's plant in southern California. We had a great, great day there. And I have worked with Jane very closely. I was trying to think what, if anything, I could say to add to what has already been said this evening. Alex really did do a very good job of making the case. But I want you to know a couple of things.

First of all, when I met Jane Harman, I thought she represented the sort of person that I was trying to bring into the Democratic Party to get to run for office. And I thought the district she represented was the sort of district I thought the Democrats had to be able to campaign in and carry if we were going to become the majority party in America, mostly because of the ideas we shared.

You know, we believed that you have to be fiscally conservative in order to be socially progressive in a world where all the capital markets are global; and if you have an irresponsible policy and you run big deficits, your interest rates are going to be high, your economy is going