

REMARKS OF SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

JEFFERSON-JACKSON DAY DINNER

HONORING SENATOR HARRISON WILLIAMS

Newark, New Jersey

February 27, 1976

I've come to New Jersey today to join with good friends in honoring my colleague and friend, New Jersey's Democrat of the Year, Pete Williams.

This year is a milestone for Pete because he will be seeking election to his fourth term in the U.S. Senate.

I know that he will win that fourth term with an overwhelming vote of confidence from both Democrats and Republicans.

As a man who has worked with your Senator and been guided by his leadership and wise counsel, I can tell you that he deserves the support of the people all across the Garden State.

Pete Williams has been in the forefront, fighting for the things which mean so much to those who cherish the cause of progressive democracy.

From his leadership post as Chairman of the Labor and Public Welfare Committee your Senator is the man depended upon by millions upon millions of Americans who want to participate more fully in our society.

Pete is the one who makes sure that the resources are provided to make the ideal of equal educational opportunity a reality for the children of America.

Pete's Committee has the great burden of insuring that the health needs of this nation are met.

Pete has been one of the leaders in our efforts to fight this Republican recession and provide benefits to those out of work.

The working families of America have a real champion in Pete Williams.

Any mention of Pete's accomplishments must include his great concern that the elderly in America live decently and with dignity.

And he has willingly taken on the problems of the forgotten Americans -- the disabled, the handicapped, the migrant worker. These are the people who need a legislative champion as some in positions of power act to cast them aside from the mainstream of American life.

Beyond his leadership position on the Labor and Public Welfare Committee, Pete Williams has become the leading expert in many important areas of legislative endeavor.

He was one of the first in Congress to perceive the need for a Federal commitment to mass transit. For years his was a voice crying in the wilderness for a governmental commitment to this need.

Now that the wisdom of his position has been recognized, Pete still is the one looked to as an expert on mass transit problems.

He also has contributed enormously to building our programs in housing and community development.

And he has mastered the very complex subject of our securities markets and helped lead the way to a major reorganization and modernization.

The list of legislative accomplishments achieved by Pete Williams reads like a summary of great moments in Congress during the last two decades:

The Migrant Health Act, Occupational Safety and Health legislation, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, increases in the Minimum Wage, Urban Mass Transit Assistance, securities industry reform, social services and increased social security for the elderly, the Education for All Handicapped Children Act and, of course, the historic Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

This a record of national accomplishment second to none.

But I know that in working hard on these national problems Pete Williams has not forgotten New Jersey.

I know that if there is a grant up for grabs, a Federal installation threatened with being moved, or an individual constituent with a problem -- Pete Williams is there.

This is why the people of New Jersey have given him three terms in the Senate. And this is why he will be elected to a fourth term with an overwhelming victory in November.

Currently it is the fad among certain people in both parties to parties to downgrade what Pete and I and others have been doing in Washington.

I want to talk frankly with my fellow Democrats for a moment about this trend and what it means for our Party and our country.

Forty-four years ago the Democratic Party gave Franklin D. Roosevelt to the nation as its leader and its hope for a better day. In the face of a bankrupt economic system which had rewarded the rich and crushed working Americans, FDR used the power of the Federal government to change the economic life of the nation.

The programs he developed for recovery and the policies he espoused marked an historic turning point in the history of the Republic.

His legacy was the fundamental principle of economic security with social justice.

No longer would the people's government turn its back on those who lost their jobs, their homes and their savings due to business failure.

No longer would the people's government let the elderly die forgotten in poverty without a system of social security for their later years.

No longer would the people's government let the corporations and banks flagrantly abuse their great power.

And no longer would the peoples' government deny working Americans the right to organize in unions and bargain collectively with employers for basic economic benefits.

The economic reforms of the Roosevelt years are still with us. They have been expanded by successive Democratic Administrations. They have been adapted to a more modern, urban America.

But let us not forget what happened to America as it suffered unprecedented economic collapse and stagnation. In the face of incredible corporate irresponsibility and weak state and local government, the power of the Federal government was used to the ultimate benefit of the American people.

Today, in a different era, many of the same problems which confronted the nation during the Great Depression have returned to haunt us.

More than seven million Americans are officially recorded as being without work. But we know that the actual figure is closer to ten million.

Our cities have become centers of poverty and despair.

Average American families are faced with ever-growing financial burdens which threaten the gains made in previous years.

And many of the commercial and financial institutions of the nation continually skirt the law in their practices at home and abroad.

I recognize, and so does Pete Williams, that these problems cannot be solved overnight.

We also recognize that state and local governments have begun to equip themselves with the tools and resources to play a more important role in providing services to people and helping to solve important national problems.

To this change must be added a very legitimate desire of people all across America to participate more directly in decisions which affect their lives.

But let's not confuse the issues.

The states and the cities must have a great role in the business of government.

But I also know that the Federal government must continue to make critical national decisions. The civil servants and legislators in Trenton or Albany -- no matter how knowledgeable -- can't plan an economic recovery or devise a strategy for cleaning up the nation's rivers. They can't provide a national food policy or a system of national health care.

Yes, they can help us in Washington. And they must. But we have a Federal system and under our Constitution Hubert Humphrey, Pete Williams and Gerald Ford are held accountable for national policies and programs.

And now let's really discuss what's at stake this year.

Local government does not possess the power and the resources to battle the special interests in America who pursue their selfish goals against the average American working family.

The polluters, the bribers, the tax cheaters, the special lobbies must be brought under control.

This can only be done with the power of the Federal government.

Franklin Roosevelt recognized this. So did Harry Truman, John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson.

These men did not disparage what can be done in Washington -- for the benefit of the people -- by dedicated men and women.

Yes, they could have run against Washington. They could have made the Federal government the whipping boy for dissatisfaction and despair. That would have been easy.

But they chose a different strategy.

They decided to run against Republicans.

Yes, they knew what was at stake. They ran against the policies of Hoover, Dewey, Eisenhower, Goldwater and Nixon.

And we won as Democrats dedicated to greater economic and social justice for the American people.

So, my fellow Democrats, there is a lesson for us today.

We will return to the White House in 1977.

But we cannot do so as anti-government zealots or as prophets of doom and gloom.

Victory will be ours if we offer imaginative alternatives to a morally bankrupt Republican Administration.

We will win not because we are against the government we hope to run, but because we are for government which helps people.

The issue this election year is not Washington -- but the policies of the Nixon-Ford Administrations.

Let us get on with the work of running against the Republicans and their economic policies which have brought us to the brink of depression.

Only by this route will we regain the faith and confidence of the American people.

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NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

FEBRUARY 27, 1976

Pete's  
Dad, Peter & wife

*Every Senator likes to  
to be here*

h I'VE COME TO NEW JERSEY TODAY TO JOIN WITH GOOD FRIENDS IN  
HONORING MY COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND, " NEW JERSEY'S DEMOCRAT OF THE YEAR, <sup>p</sup>

PETE WILLIAMS. —

h THIS YEAR IS A MILESTONE FOR PETE BECAUSE HE WILL BE SEEKING  
ELECTION TO HIS FOURTH TERM IN THE U.S. SENATE. 4th term

h I KNOW THAT HE WILL WIN THAT FOURTH TERM WITH AN OVERWHELMING  
VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FROM BOTH DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS. }

~~h AS A MAN WHO HAS WORKED WITH YOUR SENATOR AND BEEN GUIDED BY HIS  
LEADERSHIP AND WISE COUNSEL, I CAN TELL YOU THAT HE DESERVES THE  
SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE ALL ACROSS THE GARDEN STATE.~~

h PETE WILLIAMS HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT, FIGHTING FOR THE  
THINGS WHICH MEAN SO MUCH TO THOSE WHO CHERISH THE CAUSE OF  
PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRACY.

*Only democ ever reelected  
to Senate from N.J. in  
200 yrs history*

L FROM HIS LEADERSHIP POST AS CHAIRMAN OF THE LABOR AND PUBLIC  
WELFARE COMMITTEE YOUR SENATOR IS THE MAN DEPENDED UPON BY MILLIONS  
UPON MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO WANT TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN OUR  
SOCIETY.

L PETE IS THE ONE WHO MAKES SURE THAT THE RESOURCES ARE PROVIDED  
TO MAKE THE IDEAL OF EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY A REALITY FOR THE  
CHILDREN OF AMERICA.

L PETE'S COMMITTEE HAS THE GREAT BURDEN OF INSURING THAT THE  
HEALTH NEEDS OF THIS NATION ARE MET.

L PETE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE LEADERS IN OUR EFFORTS TO FIGHT THIS  
REPUBLICAN RECESSION AND PROVIDE BENEFITS TO THOSE OUT OF WORK.

YLLH THE WORKING FAMILIES OF AMERICA HAVE A REAL CHAMPION IN

PETE WILLIAMS.

*Elderly*

ANY MENTION OF PETE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS MUST INCLUDE HIS GREAT

CONCERN THAT THE ELDERLY IN AMERICA LIVE DECENTLY AND WITH DIGNITY.

*Disabled*

AND HE HAS WILLINGLY TAKEN ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE FORGOTTEN

AMERICANS -- THE DISABLED, THE HANDICAPPED, THE MIGRANT WORKER.

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO NEED A LEGISLATIVE CHAMPION. *There are* AS SOME IN

POSITIONS OF POWER, *who are willing* ~~ACT~~ TO CAST THEM ASIDE FROM THE MAINSTREAM OF

AMERICAN LIFE.

BEYOND HIS LEADERSHIP POSITION ON THE LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE

COMMITTEE, PETE WILLIAMS HAS BECOME THE LEADING EXPERT IN MANY

IMPORTANT AREAS OF LEGISLATIVE ENDEAVOR.

*Mass Transit*

HE WAS ONE OF THE FIRST IN CONGRESS TO PERCEIVE THE NEED

FOR A FEDERAL COMMITMENT TO MASS TRANSIT. *FOR YEARS HIS WAS A*

VOICE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS FOR A GOVERNMENTAL COMMITMENT TO

THIS NEED.

~~NOW THAT THE WISDOM OF HIS POSITION HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED,  
 PETE STILL IS THE ONE LOOKED TO <sup>AS</sup> AN EXPERT ON MASS TRANSIT  
 PROBLEMS.~~

*Housing*

HE ALSO HAS CONTRIBUTED ENORMOUSLY TO BUILDING OUR  
PROGRAMS IN HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

*Housing  
Community  
Development*

*Secretary*

AND HE HAS MASTERED THE VERY COMPLEX SUBJECT OF OUR  
SECURITIES MARKETS AND HELPED LEAD THE WAY TO A MAJOR  
REORGANIZATION AND MODERNIZATION.

*Secretary*

*L*

THE LIST OF LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ACHIEVED  
 BY PETE WILLIAMS READS LIKE A SUMMARY OF GREAT MOMENTS IN  
 CONGRESS DURING THE LAST TWO DECADES:

*Summary*

Summary

THE MIGRANT HEALTH ACT, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

LEGISLATION, THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ACT, INCREASES IN THE

MINIMUM WAGE, URBAN MASS TRANSIT ASSISTANCE, SECURITIES INDUSTRY

REFORM, SOCIAL SERVICES AND INCREASED SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE

ELDERLY, THE EDUCATION FOR ALL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN ACT AND,

OF COURSE, THE HISTORIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY

ACT OF 1974.

What a Record

THIS A RECORD OF NATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENT SECOND TO NONE!

BUT I KNOW THAT IN WORKING HARD ON THESE NATIONAL PROBLEMS

PETE WILLIAMS HAS NOT FORGOTTEN NEW JERSEY.

*(never forgets N.J.)*

I KNOW THAT IF THERE IS A GRANT UP FOR GRABS, A FEDERAL

INSTALLATION THREATENED WITH BEING MOVED, OR AN INDIVIDUAL

CONSTITUENT WITH A PROBLEM -- PETE WILLIAMS IS THERE.

GOP complains of Govt - which they run - & even some Dems say - new Deal - out of date - FDR - Truman - JFK LAST

THIS IS WHY THE PEOPLE OF NEW JERSEY HAVE GIVEN HIM THREE

TERMS IN THE SENATE / AND THIS IS WHY HE WILL BE ELECTED TO A

FOURTH TERM WITH AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY IN NOVEMBER,

CURRENTLY IT IS THE FAD AMONG CERTAIN PEOPLE IN BOTH PARTIES TO

DOWNGRADE WHAT PETE AND I AND OTHERS HAVE BEEN DOING IN WASHINGTON.

I WANT TO TALK FRANKLY WITH MY FELLOW DEMOCRATS FOR A

MOMENT ABOUT THIS TREND AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR OUR PARTY AND

We the People →

The Attacks on!

OUR COUNTRY.

FDR FORTY-FOUR YEARS AGO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY GAVE FRANKLIN

D. ROOSEVELT TO THE NATION AS ITS LEADER AND ITS HOPE FOR A

BETTER DAY / IN THE FACE OF A BANKRUPT ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH

HAD REWARDED THE RICH AND CRUSHED WORKING AMERICANS,

FDR USED THE POWER OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE THE ECONOMIC

LIFE OF THE NATION.

L THE PROGRAMS HE DEVELOPED FOR RECOVERY AND THE POLICIES

*he advocated market*  
~~the free market~~

AT HISTORIC TURNING POINT IN THE HISTORY

OF THE REPUBLIC.

L HIS LEGACY WAS THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF ECONOMIC

SECURITY WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE.

*all houses  
all fed*

L NO LONGER WOULD THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT TURN ITS BACK

*Jobs  
Homes  
Savings*

ON THOSE WHO LOST THEIR JOBS, THEIR HOMES AND THEIR SAVINGS

~~DUE TO BUSINESS FAILURE.~~

L NO LONGER WOULD THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT LET THE ELDERLY

*elderly*

DIE, FORGOTTEN IN POVERTY, ~~WITHOUT~~ A SYSTEM OF SOCIAL SECURITY *was*

*enacted to*

FOR THEIR LATER YEARS.

↳ NO LONGER WOULD THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT LET THE CORPORATIONS  
AND BANKS FLAGRANTLY ABUSE THEIR GREAT POWER.

↳ AND NO LONGER WOULD THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT DENY WORKING  
AMERICANS THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE IN UNIONS AND BARGAIN COLLECTIVELY  
WITH EMPLOYERS FOR BASIC ECONOMIC BENEFITS.

*and* ↳ THE ECONOMIC REFORMS OF THE ROOSEVELT YEARS ARE STILL WITH  
US. THEY HAVE BEEN EXPANDED BY SUCCESSIVE DEMOCRATIC ADMINISTRATIONS.

↳ THEY HAVE BEEN ADAPTED TO A MORE MODERN, URBAN AMERICA.

↳ BUT LET US NOT FORGET WHAT HAPPENED TO AMERICA AS IT SUFFERED  
UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC COLLAPSE AND STAGNATION. ↳ IN THE FACE OF  
INCREDIBLE CORPORATE IRRESPONSIBILITY AND WEAK STATE AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT, THE POWER OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS USED TO THE  
ULTIMATE BENEFIT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Government, big or small, is not the issue -  
the issue is People and how best to serve  
their interests

TODAY, IN A DIFFERENT ERA, MANY OF THE SAME PROBLEMS WHICH  
CONFRONTED THE NATION DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION HAVE RETURNED

TO HAUNT US,

(Had it not been for the measures  
of ~~WPA, PWA, HST, IEL, NIT~~  
Been Depress

MORE THAN SEVEN MILLION AMERICANS ARE OFFICIALLY RECORDED

AS BEING WITHOUT WORK. BUT WE KNOW THAT THE ACTUAL FIGURE IS

CLOSER TO TEN MILLION.

Cities

OUR CITIES HAVE BECOME CENTERS OF POVERTY AND DESPAIR.

Income

AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILIES ARE FACED WITH EVER-GROWING

FINANCIAL BURDENS WHICH THREATEN THE GAINS MADE IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

BANKS

AND MANY OF THE COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OF

THE NATION CONTINUALLY SKIRT THE LAW IN THEIR PRACTICES AT HOME

AND ABROAD.

I RECOGNIZE, AND SO DOES PETE WILLIAMS, THAT THESE PROBLEMS  
CANNOT BE SOLVED OVERNIGHT.

Let States Do it? - Reagan  
-10-

↳ WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE  
BEGUN TO EQUIP THEMSELVES WITH THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO PLAY  
A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROVIDING SERVICES TO PEOPLE AND HELPING  
TO SOLVE IMPORTANT NATIONAL PROBLEMS.

↳ TO THIS CHANGE MUST BE ADDED A VERY LEGITIMATE DESIRE OF  
PEOPLE ALL ACROSS AMERICA TO PARTICIPATE MORE DIRECTLY IN  
DECISIONS WHICH AFFECT THEIR LIVES.

↳ BUT LET'S NOT CONFUSE THE ISSUES. ! Yes, Indeed -

↳ THE STATES AND THE CITIES MUST HAVE A GREAT ROLE IN THE  
BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT.

Oh BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MUST  
CONTINUE TO MAKE CRITICAL NATIONAL DECISIONS.

Energy Policy,  
Food Policy, Transportation, Environment  
Healthcare, Education, Housing,  
etc

*The Governors*

THE CIVIL SERVANTS AND LEGISLATORS IN TRENTON OR ALBANY -- NO

MATTER HOW KNOWLEDGEABLE --CAN'T PLAN AN ECONOMIC RECOVERY OR

DEVISE A STRATEGY FOR CLEANING UP THE NATION'S RIVERS, THEY

CAN'T PROVIDE A NATIONAL FOOD POLICY OR A SYSTEM OF NATIONAL

HEALTH CARE,

*They can't take the big national  
Interior Corps - -*

YES, THEY CAN HELP US IN WASHINGTON, AND THEY MUST BUT

WE HAVE A FEDERAL SYSTEM AND UNDER OUR CONSTITUTION HUBERT

HUMPHREY, PETE WILLIAMS AND GERALD FORD ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE

FOR NATIONAL POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.

*What's AT Stake*

AND NOW LET'S REALLY DISCUSS WHAT'S AT STAKE THIS YEAR.

*Gov't being small, isn't the issue - the issue is*

~~LOCAL GOVERNMENT DOES NOT POSSESS THE POWER AND THE~~

*People and how their interests can best be*

~~RESOURCES TO BATTLE THE SPECIAL INTERESTS IN AMERICA WHO PURSUE~~

*their*

~~THEIR SELFISH GOALS AGAINST THE AVERAGE AMERICAN WORKING FAMILY.~~

L THE POLLUTERS, THE BRIBERS, THE TAX CHEATERS, THE SPECIAL  
LOBBIES MUST BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL.

*The People's Interest  
must be served*

L THIS CAN ONLY BE DONE WITH THE POWER OF THE FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT.

L FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT RECOGNIZED THIS. SO DID HARRY TRUMAN,  
JOHN KENNEDY AND LYNDON JOHNSON.

*Run Against Washington!*

(Y) L THESE MEN DID NOT DISPARAGE WHAT CAN BE DONE IN WASHINGTON --  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE -- BY DEDICATED MEN AND WOMEN.

L YES, THEY COULD HAVE RUN AGAINST WASHINGTON < THEY COULD  
HAVE MADE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THE WHIPPING BOY FOR  
DISSATISFACTION AND DESPAIR. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASY.

*Run Against  
Republic*

L BUT THEY CHOSE A DIFFERENT STRATEGY.

L THEY DECIDED TO RUN AGAINST REPUBLICANS. *against  
the economic Royalists - against  
Privilege by plantation -*

and they fought for Economic growth  
Jobs, Educ, Health Care, the Elderly, the  
Handicapped, the <sup>-13-</sup> minorities, etc

Yes, THEY KNEW WHAT WAS AT STAKE. THEY RAN AGAINST THE

POLICIES OF HOOVER, DEWEY, EISENHOWER, GOLDWATER AND NIXON.

AND WE WON AS DEMOCRATS DEDICATED TO GREATER ECONOMIC

AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

So, MY FELLOW DEMOCRATS, THERE IS A LESSON FOR US TODAY.

WE WILL RETURN TO THE WHITE HOUSE IN 1977.

BUT WE CANNOT DO SO AS ANTI-GOVERNMENT ZEALOTS OR AS

PROPHETS OF DOOM AND GLOOM.

VICTORY WILL BE OURS IF WE OFFER <sup>Sensible</sup> ~~IMAGINATIVE~~ ALTERNATIVES

TO A MORALLY BANKRUPT REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION.

WE WILL WIN NOT BECAUSE WE ARE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT

WE HOPE TO RUN, BUT BECAUSE WE ARE FOR GOVERNMENT WHICH

HELPS PEOPLE. - a govt that offers america  
a full employment policy that assures

decent jobs at decent wages;  
an income maintenance program  
that replaces the Welfare mess;  
a national health care system  
that provides quality health care  
for all; a housing program  
that replaces slums with sound,  
low cost, high quality housing  
for every family. a tax program  
that eliminates glaring tax  
loopholes that make it possible  
for some people & some corporations  
to pay little or nothing, while  
the middle income taxpayer  
bears the burden of government  
expenditures - a transportation  
program for both urban &  
rural America; and an  
energy program that  
~~protects~~ assures America  
of energy resources -

Votes, unemp, Recession, inflation!  
neglect your cities;

THE ISSUE THIS ELECTION YEAR IS NOT WASHINGTON -- BUT

THE POLICIES OF THE NIXON-FORD ADMINISTRATIONS.

who have been  
in Wash. 8 yrs

LET US GET ON WITH THE WORK OF RUNNING AGAINST THE

REPUBLICANS AND THEIR ECONOMIC POLICIES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT

US TO THE BRINK OF DEPRESSION.

ⓐ Rep. act as if  
they just came in

ONLY BY THIS ROUTE WILL WE REGAIN THE FAITH AND

~~Rep. act~~  
~~as if~~

CONFIDENCE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

We will win because we care!  
We will win because ~~we~~ care to pioneer  
We will win because America  
is tired of being told ~~that~~ that  
we can't do - America wants  
to hear what we can & will do!



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