

NEWS RELEASE HUMPHREY FOR PRESIDENT

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FOR RELEASE -- 10 a.m., Saturday

HUMPHREY PLEDGES TO OPEN GOVERNMENT
TO FULL PARTICIPATION BY AMERICAN
YOUTH

CONTACT: Jack McDonald

MIAMI BEACH, March 11--Senator Hubert H. Humphrey told a state-wide high school mock political convention today that as President he would open the doors of government to full participation by American youth.

"And I'm not talking about tokenism," Humphrey said. "I'm talking about bringing the youth of our Nation into the decision-making processes. We must give them access to the power levers of our society."

Speaking at North Miami Beach Senior High School before delegates from hundreds of Florida high schools, Senator Humphrey ticked off his record in public service on behalf of youth, a record that includes the creation of the Peace Corps, leadership of the Council of Youth Opportunity, passage of the National Defense Education Act, and sponsorship of the Interns for Political Leadership Act.

Following are excerpts from the Senator's prepared remarks:

* * * * *

There are 93 million Americans under the age of 25. And for these Americans, the 1970s must be a decade of responsibility as well as opportunity.

When I talk about the role of youth in America I speak with three decades of experience in providing opportunities for the youth of America:

--If you apply for a federal loan to help finance your college education, you will be receiving the benefits of legislation I authored. And I can tell you it didn't come easy. We introduced bill after bill and finally we made it, with the National Defense Education Act.

--John Kennedy and I fought for the Peace Corps. There were people who said it was idealistic, that it was far out, that it was a way to avoid the draft, and so forth. I spent three

(more)

hard years working on the idea of a peace Corps, and we achieved it. And 50,000 young Americans have proved its worth in every part of the world.

--When I was Vice President, I served as Chairman of the Council on Youth Opportunity. And through our programs like the Job Corps and Vista, we gave job opportunities to more than 1.5 million disadvantaged young Americans.

--I sponsored and introduced the Interns for Political Leadership Act, which was approved by the Senate last fall. My bill will provide for at least 1000 internships each year, so that students can work with their elected representatives from city councils to the Congress. These positions will be ones of major responsibility, involving youth directly in their government.

--I have sponsored legislation to give all Americans a national system of voting registration--the National Voter Registration Act of 1972. The 26th Amendment was the passport to political participation for young Americans. Now let's stamp that passport with a simple system of voter registration.

--I proposed in Florida last month a major new service corps to be called Americans for Domestic Development--ADD for short--to add the idealism and impulse for service of Americans of all ages to the needs of the nation. ADD will be in addition, not in competition with existing programs to enlist the talent and skills of all Americans in the communities where they live and work.

--And let me tell of one of the first things I would do as President. I would immediately create an Office of Youth Affairs with a Chairman with Cabinet-level rank.

This Office will have the prime responsibility of bringing young people into all government agencies. We are now making decisions for tomorrow and for future generations. Tomorrow's generation of leaders--and that's you--must contribute to policy-making today.

I call upon you--the delegates to this convention--to help change America, to mobilize the resources of this country to make the 1970s a decade of dynamic domestic development.

With your support, and with leadership that appeals to the best that is in our people, we can indeed make the 1970's a decade of progress and achievement for all Americans.

001357

MEMORANDUM

March 9, 1972

To: Senator Humphrey

From: Mark Epstein

Subject: High School Youth Mock Political Convention
Saturday, March 11.

You will be the first speaker of the day -- McGovern, Lindsay, and others will follow later.

Your audience will be high school students from all over the state. Our Florida people say they will be mostly moderate to conservative and that many of them like Nixon.

It has been suggested that you speak for 15 minutes at most and then open it up for Q & A.

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUMPHREY

001358

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MOCK POLITICAL CONVENTION

NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

MARCH 11, 1972

001359

I APPEAR BEFORE YOUR CONVENTION TODAY AS A CANDIDATE
FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

IN MY CAMPAIGN I HAVE TRAVELLED ACROSS THE STATE OF
FLORIDA AND TALKED WITH MANY PEOPLE -- ESPECIALLY YOUNG
PEOPLE AND STUDENTS. LET ME TELL YOU WHAT YOUR FELLOW
STUDENTS HAVE BEEN TELLING ME -- WHAT THEY WANT THEIR
ROLE IN AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE TO BE.

THE YOUTH OF FLORIDA -- AND THE YOUTH OF ALL AMERICA --
IS TIRED OF HEARING WHAT SHOULD BE DONE. YOU WANT AND
DESERVE TO HAVE YOUR OWN SAY -- AND TO HAVE IT HEARD WITH
RESPECT.

YOU ARE RIGHTLY DEMANDING FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE
POLITICAL PROCESS. YOUNG AMERICANS HAVE BOTH THE RIGHT

AND THE OBLIGATION TO SHARE IN THE DECISIONS THAT WILL
AFFECT THEIR LIVES.

AMERICAN YOUTH MUST BE BROUGHT INTO THE DECISION-
MAKING PROCESS OF OUR SOCIETY. YOU MUST HAVE MUCH MORE
THAN THE VOTE. WE CAN AND MUST GIVE YOU ACCESS TO THE
POWER LEVERS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE CAN AND MUST ENLIST
YOU IN THE TASK OF MOVING AHEAD ON OUR URGENT AGENDA
OF DOMESTIC PROBLEMS.

WE NEED MORE THAN JUST TOKENISM; WE NEED THE FULL
INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH IN SOLVING AMERICA'S PROBLEMS.

THERE ARE 93 MILLION AMERICANS UNDER THE AGE OF 25,
AND FOR THESE AMERICANS, THE 1970'S MUST BE A DECADE OF
RESPONSIBILITY -- AS WELL AS OF OPPORTUNITY.

001361

WHEN I TALK ABOUT THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN AMERICA I

SPEAK WITH THREE DECADES OF EXPERIENCE IN PROVIDING

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE YOUTH OF AMERICA,

--IF YOU APPLY FOR A FEDERAL LOAN TO HELP FINANCE YOUR
COLLEGE EDUCATION, YOU WILL BE RECEIVING THE BENEFITS OF
LEGISLATION I AUTHORED. AND I CAN TELL YOU IT DIDN'T COME
EASY. IT TOOK A LONG TIME. WE INTRODUCED BILL AFTER
BILL AND FINALLY WE MADE IT, WITH THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
EDUCATION ACT.

-- JOHN KENNEDY AND I FOUGHT FOR THE PEACE CORPS.
THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO SAID IT WAS IDEALISTIC, THAT IT WAS
FAR OUT, THAT IT WAS A WAY TO AVOID THE DRAFT, AND SO FORTH.

I SPENT THREE HARD YEARS WORKING ON THE IDEA OF A
PEACE CORPS, AND WE ACHIEVED IT. AND 50,000 YOUNG
AMERICANS HAVE PROVED ITS WORTH IN EVERY PART OF THE WORLD.

-- WHEN I WAS VICE PRESIDENT, I SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF
THE COUNCIL ON YOUTH OPPORTUNITY. AND THROUGH OUR PROGRAMS
LIKE THE JOB CORPS AND VISTA, WE GAVE JOB OPPORTUNITIES TO
MORE THAN 1 1/2 MILLION DISADVANTAGED YOUNG AMERICANS.

-- I SPONSORED AND INTRODUCED THE INTERNS FOR
POLITICAL LEADERSHIP ACT, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE SENATE
LAST FALL. MY BILL WILL PROVIDE FOR AT LEAST 1000
INTERNSHIPS EACH YEAR, SO THAT STUDENTS CAN WORK WITH THEIR
ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES FROM CITY COUNCILS TO THE CONGRESS,

THESE POSITIONS WILL BE ONES OF MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY,
INVOLVING YOUTH DIRECTLY IN THEIR GOVERNMENT.

-- I HAVE SPONSORED VITAL LEGISLATION TO GIVE ALL
AMERICANS A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF VOTING REGISTRATION --
THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1972.

A SYSTEM OF NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION IS THE NEXT
LOGICAL STEP IN EXPANDING THE AMERICAN ELECTORATE. IT IS
NEEDED NOW. IT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED NOW.

IF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CAN FIND 95% OF ALL AMERICANS
TO GET THEIR INCOME TAXES, IT CAN FIND YOU AND REGISTER
YOU QUICKLY AND EASILY BY MAIL. THE 26TH AMENDMENT WAS
THE PASSPORT TO POLITICAL PARTICIPATION FOR YOUNG AMERICANS.

001364

NOW LET'S STAMP THAT PASSPORT WITH A SIMPLE SYSTEM OF
VOTER REGISTRATION.

-- I PROPOSED HERE IN FLORIDA LAST MONTH A MAJOR NEW
SERVICE CORPS TO BE CALLED AMERICANS FOR DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT --
ADD FOR SHORT, -- TO ADD THE IDEALISM AND IMPULSE FOR
SERVICE OF AMERICANS OF ALL AGES TO THE NEEDS OF THE NATION.

ADD WILL BE IN ADDITION, NOT IN COMPETITION WITH
EXISTING PROGRAMS TO ENLIST THE TALENTS AND SKILLS OF ALL
AMERICANS IN THE COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY LIVE AND WORK.

-- AND LET ME TELL OF ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS I
WOULD DO AS PRESIDENT. I WOULD IMMEDIATELY CREATE AN
OFFICE OF YOUTH AFFAIRS WITH A CHAIRMAN WITH CABINET-LEVEL
RANK.

001365

THIS OFFICE WILL HAVE THE PRIME RESPONSIBILITY OF
BRINGING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. WE
ARE NOW MAKING DECISIONS FOR TOMORROW AND FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS. TOMORROW'S GENERATION OF LEADERS -- AND
THAT'S YOU -- MUST CONTRIBUTE TO POLICY-MAKING TODAY.

I CALL UPON YOU -- THE DELEGATES TO THIS CONVENTION --
TO HELP CHANGE AMERICA, TO MOBILIZE THE RESOURCES OF THIS
COUNTRY TO MAKE THE 1970'S A DECADE OF DYNAMIC DOMESTIC
DEVELOPMENT,

AND WHAT WE NEED BESIDES YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS LEADERSHIP
SO THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL AGAIN HAVE FAITH AND
CONFIDENCE IN THEIR GOVERNMENT.

001366

WHAT WE NEED IS A NEW PARTNERSHIP -- OF PEOPLE AND
THEIR GOVERNMENT -- UNITED TO MAKE AMERICA A BETTER PLACE
TO LIVE, TO WORK, AND TO PROSPER.

THERE IS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE IN THIS COUNTRY, AND
I'LL HELP GET IT DONE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I KNOW HOW
TO DO IT.

I COME TO YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT -- NOT ONLY IN THIS
CONVENTION, BUT IN THE GREAT TASKS AHEAD.

WITH YOUR SUPPORT, AND WITH LEADERSHIP THAT APPEALS TO
THE BEST THAT IS IN OUR PEOPLE, WE CAN INDEED MAKE THE
1970'S A DECADE OF PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT FOR AMERICA --
AND FOR ALL AMERICANS.



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