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Montana Teamsters Convention

Max S. Baucus

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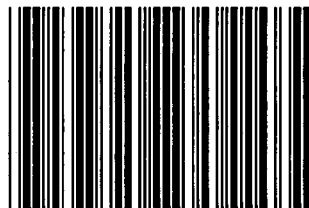
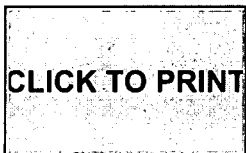
September-1978

Labor

(select subject from controlled vocabulary, if your office has one)

Teamsters Speech V2

09/30/1978



BAUCUS

REMARKS BY
CONGRESSMAN MAX BAUCUS
BEFORE THE
MONTANA TEAMSTERS CONVENTION
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA
SEPTEMBER 30, 1978

I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF MY THOUGHTS CONCERNING MY BID FOR THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

ON WEDNESDAY, THE CANADIAN NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD RECOMMENDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA CONTINUE SHIPPING CRUDE OIL TO MONTANA AND OTHER STATES AT PRESENT LEVELS FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS.

IN BILLINGS ALONE, THIS MOVE COULD HELP SAVE OVER 3,000 JOBS WHICH STAND TO BE LOST IF SUFFICIENT SUPPLIES OF CRUDE OIL ARE NOT FOUND. STATE-WIDE, THE CANADIAN CRUDE OIL COULD MAKE UP FOR CRUDE OIL SHORTFALLS THAT WOULD RESULT IN REAL INCOME LOSSES IN THE EXCESS OF \$500 MILLION IN 1980. KEEP IN MIND THAT NEARLY 50 PERCENT OF THE OIL NOW REFINED IN MONTANA IS SWEET CRUDE FROM CANADA.

PRIOR TO THIS ACTION, CANADA'S NATIONAL ENERGY BOARD HAD ADOPTED CRUDE OIL EXPORT CONTROLS INTENDED TO END OIL EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE EARLY 1980'S. IN APRIL OF THIS YEAR, I MET IN OTTAWA WITH THE CANADIAN MINISTER OF ENERGY, ALASTAIR GILLESPIE. GILLESPIE WAS SYMPATHETIC TO MONTANA'S PROBLEMS AND HE ASSURED ME THAT IT WAS LIKELY THAT CANADA'S INDEPENDENT ENERGY BOARD WOULD APPROVE AN INCREASE IN OIL EXPORTS. THE CANADIAN DECISION DIRECTLY IMPACTS 13 PERCENT OF THE JOBS IN MONTANA. THIS ACTION REALLY GIVES US A THREE YEAR BREATHING SPELL BUT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE CONTINUE TO WORK FOR PERMANENT SOLUTIONS TO MONTANA'S CRUDE OIL PROBLEMS.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIS WEEK PASSED A SURFACE TRANSPORTATION ACT WHICH WILL PROVIDE ABOUT \$750 MILLION FOR PRIMARY ROAD SYSTEM REPAIR AND NEARLY \$2 BILLION FOR BRIDGE REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

AS YOU KNOW, I OPOSE THE DEREGULATION OF THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY. I DIDN'T LIKE IT BECAUSE DEREGULATION WOULD HAVE SERIOUSLY HURT MONTANA. THAT ISSUE IS NOW DEAD FOR THIS SESSION OF CONGRESS.

DURING MY ENTIRE PUBLIC CAREER, BOTH IN THE MONTANA LEGISLATURE AND THE CONGRESS, I HAVE MADE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO REMAIN ACCESSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE OF MONTANA -- TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND AND TO SEEK OUT DIVERGENT VIEWS ON THE ISSUES CONFRONTING MONTANA AND THE NATION. MORE IMPORTANTLY, I HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE DECISIONS AND ACTIONS I MAKE IN CONGRESS. I WILL CONTINUE TO BE A VOICE NOT MERELY A VOTE FOR MONTANA IN WASHINGTON.

I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU AS TEAMSTERS STUDY MY PAST RECORD CLOSELY ON THE ISSUES OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO YOU. I AM PROUD OF MY PAST LABOR RECORD. I WOULD POINT OUT THAT THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS RECENTLY GAVE ME AN 83 PERCENT VOTE RATING. THIS RATING IS THE HIGHEST IN THE MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION.

DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, MANY CANDIDATES WILL BE SINGING SWEET MUSIC AND PROMISING YOU EVERYTHING. I REMIND YOU THAT ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS.

I VOTED FOR LABOR LAW REFORM, COMMON SITUUS PICKETING, AND INCREASES IN THE MINIMUM WAGE. MY RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. I REMIND YOU THAT MY OPPONENT DOES NOT HAVE A RECORD.

IN RECENT MONTHS, WE HAVE WITNESSED A VIRTUAL STAMPEDE OF CANDIDATES JUMPING ON THE ECONOMY IN GOVERNMENT BANDWAGON. AND IN SPITE OF THE RHETORIC, IT IS THE DEMOCRATS WHO ARE TAKING THE RESPONSIBLE LEAD IN THE ATTACK ON OUR ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

I STRESS THE WORD RESPONSIBLE. THE HOUSE HAS JUST PASSED A DEMOCRATIC TAX BILL DESIGNED TO REDUCE THE BITE ON THE AVERAGE AMERICAN AND INCREASE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY.

AND WE DEFEATED AN IRRESPONSIBLE SUBSTITUTE BILL PUSHED BY THE REPUBLICANS.

ON THE SURFACE, IT'S AN ATTRACTIVE PROPOSAL. THE KEMP-ROTH BILL WOULD CUT TAXES 33 PERCENT IN THREE YEARS.

THE SAME REPUBLICANS PREVIOUSLY DEMANDED INSTANT BALANCING OF THE BUDGET LINED UP BEHIND THIS PROPOSAL THAT ACCORDING TO BUSINESSWEEK MAGAZINE WOULD ADD "100 BILLION TO A DEFICIT THAT IS ALREADY DANGEROUSLY SWOLLEN.

"IT WOULD TOUCH OFF AN INFLATIONARY EXPLOSION THAT WOULD WRECK THE COUNTRY AND IMPOVERISH EVERYONE ON A FIXED INCOME."

IN THE HOUSE WE JUST VOTED A BUDGET RESOLUTION THAT CUTS THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED DEFICIT BY \$20 BILLION AND SPENDING BY \$10 BILLION.

A RECENT ANALYSIS BY THE NATIONAL TAXPAYERS' UNION SHOT DOWN SOME OF THE OLD MYTHS ABOUT CONGRESSIONAL SPENDING. WHEN THE NTU CLOSELY EXAMINED THE NUMBER OF ANTI-SPENDING VOTES PASSED BY EACH MEMBER, AND HOW EACH MEMBER VOTED NOT TO SPEND, SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER ONLY SCORED 36 PERCENT, WHILE SENATOR CHURCH FROM IDAHO SCORED 44 PERCENT.

I RECEIVED A RATING OF 54 PERCENT WHICH PUTS ME IN THE TOP PERCENT ON THE LIST OF FRUGAL CONGRESSMEN AND I INTEND TO KEEP THOSE SPENDING HABITS IN THE SENATE. I HAVE BEEN WORKING TO RESPONSIBLY HOLD THE LINE ON GOVERNMENT SPENDING FOR THE LAST THREE AND A HALF YEARS.

ADLAI STEVENSON ONCE SAID, "THE OBJECT OF A CAMPAIGN WAS TO WIN THE ELECTION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PROVING THAT YOU ARE WORTHY OF WINNING IT." DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS I PROPOSE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT I AM WORTHY OF THE OFFICE BY PRESENTING MY PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS, MY RECORD AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, MY HOPES FOR THE FUTURE OF MONTANA.

GIVE ME THE CHANCE TO EXPAND THE WORK I'VE BEEN DOING. I PROMISE THAT I WON'T LET YOU DOWN.

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