

Binder

REMARKS OF GOVERNOR THOMAS H. KEAN

AT THE

BREAKFAST FOR THE REPUBLICAN LEGISLATIVE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

FEATURING

VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

MONDAY, MAY 6, 1985

THANK YOU, CHUCK, AND GOOD MORNING.

YOU KNOW, THERE'S AN OLD SAYING THAT TODAY'S MIGHTY
OAK IS JUST YESTERDAY'S LITTLE ACORN THAT HELD ITS GROUND.

IN SOME WAYS, THAT SAYING APPLIES TO OUR REPUBLICAN
MINORITY IN THE ASSEMBLY.

NOT THAT THE MINORITY IS JUST A LITTLE ACORN -- IN
FACT, IT INCLUDES SOME OF THE MOST COMPETENT ASSEMBLYMEN IN
THE ENTIRE LEGISLATURE.

BUT IN 1983, WE HELD OUR GROUND. WE FACED A SITUATION
IN WHICH HISTORY DICTATED THAT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO LOSE
SEATS -- AND WE HELD ON.

WELL, TODAY WE FACE A DIFFERENT SITUATION. A GREAT OPPORTUNITY. THIS YEAR, WE CAN BECOME THAT MIGHTY OAK -- WE CAN TAKE THE ACORN PLANTED IN 1983 AND TURN IT INTO A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY IN THE ASSEMBLY.

YOU KNOW, NEW JERSEY IS CHANGING. UNDER THE DEMOCRATS, PEOPLE WERE LEAVING THE STATE. BUSINESSES WERE FOLDING UP THEIR TENTS AND TAKING THEIR JOBS ELSEWHERE. NEW JERSEY WAS LOSING ITS CONFIDENCE.

AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNTHINKABLE, BACK THEN, FOR THE REPUBLICANS TO CLAIM THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING THE MAJORITY PARTY IN NEW JERSEY.

WELL, ITS NO SECRET THAT THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW. NEW JERSEY HAS ADDED OVER 300,000 NEW JOBS. BUSINESSES -- AND JOBS -- ARE STREAMING INTO THE STATE BY THE THOUSANDS.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, NEW JERSEY IS ADDING POPULATION AND NOT LOSING IT.

AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, THERE IS A NEW PRIDE ALIVE IN OUR STATE. YOU CAN ALMOST FEEL IT. PEOPLE ARE PROUD TO BE FROM NEW JERSEY.

THAT CHANGE HAS OCCURRED UNDER REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP.

LAST YEAR, THIS STATE TURNED IN ONE OF THE LARGEST MARGINS OF VICTORY FOR RONALD REAGAN AND GEORGE BUSH IN THE COUNTRY.

MR. VICE PRESIDENT, WE GAVE THE REAGAN-BUSH TEAM A VICTORY OF ALMOST SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND VOTES.

THAT WAS JUST A FEW MORE THAN I WON BY IN 1981!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT'S COME WITH THE CHANGE? IT IS NO LONGER OUTLANDISH TO TALK ABOUT THE REPUBLICAN PARTY BECOMING THE MAJORITY PARTY IN NEW JERSEY.

IN FACT, OUR POLLING SHOWS THAT JUST ABOUT AS MANY NEW JERSEYANS TODAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS REPUBLICANS AS IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS DEMOCRATS.

SO IN A SENSE, WHAT WE HAVE IN NEW JERSEY IN 1985 IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

A TURNING POINT IN THIS STATE'S HISTORY.

AND MR. VICE PRESIDENT, WE ARE GRATEFUL THAT YOU ARE HERE THIS MORNING TO HELP US SIEZE THE MOMENT.

I AM CONVINCED THAT WE CAN SIEZE THE MOMENT -- AND
SIEZE THE MAJORITY IN THE ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR.

WE HAVE THE IDEAS AND THE PROGRAMS.

WE HAVE THE OUTSTANDING CANDIDATES.

AND, WITH YOUR HELP, WE WILL HAVE THE MONEY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE AN
INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS HELPED SET THIS MOMENT.

HE IS PART OF A TEAM THAT HAS TURNED NOT ONLY NEW
JERSEY -- BUT THIS ENTIRE COUNTRY -- AROUND.

AS PART OF THAT TEAM, HE HAS HELPED GENERATE THE
GREATEST ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN 40 YEARS.

HE IS A FRIEND OF NEW JERSEY.

HE IS A FORMER CONGRESSMAN, A FORMER REPUBLICAN
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, A FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N., AND
A FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE OF THE C.I.A.

EVEN THOUGH HE'S A YALE MAN, HE IS A GOOD FRIEND.

HE IS, OF COURSE, THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES, THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH: