

THIS IS A NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC TELEVISION SPECIAL PRESENTATION.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE POLITICAL LIBRARY AND THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL PRESENT POLITICS AND EGGS 2007 CANDIDATES SERIES WITH OHIO CONGRESSMAN DENNIS KUCINICH.

WITH SUPPORT FROM B.A.E. SYSTEMS, CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND FIDELITY INVESTMENTS.

MICHAEL CHANEY/ GOOD MORNING.

WELCOME TO THE NEXT INSTALLMENT OF POLITICS AND EGGS AS WE WELCOME CONGRESSMAN DENNIS KUCINICH TO THE FORUM.

AS ALWAYS I WANT TO THANK THE SPONSORS FOR UNDERWRITING THIS EVENT AND THE SERIES OF EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE COMING MONTHS. THEIR BANNERS ARE HANGING AND THE PLACE CARDS LIST THE COMPANIES AS WELL.

WE THANK ALL OF YOU VERY MUCH FOR SUPPORTING THIS IMPORTANT EVENT.

ALSO, ADDITIONAL UNDERWRITING FROM B.A.E. SYSTEMS, CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL AND FIDELITY INVESTMENTS ALONG WITH THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL AND THE NEW HAMPSHIRE POLITICAL LIBRARY MAKES THIS EVENT PERMANENTLY AVAILABLE AT OUR WEBSITE, THANKS TO NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC TELEVISION AND THEIR PRODUCTION OF THIS EVENT AND TO A WEBCAST WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS ON THE SITE, WWW.POLITICAL.LIBRARY.ORG.

WE THANK NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC TELEVISION FOR PRODUCING THESE WEBCASTS AND COVERING THESE EVENTS.

DENNIS KUCINICH IS A CONGRESSMAN FROM OHIO.

IN 2004, KUCINICH'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY WAS A CONTINUATION OF HIS CHALLENGE TO THE WAR IN IRAQ.

HE LED 125 DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS OF CONGRESS IN OPPOSITION TO THE WAR.

KUCINICH HAS ADVOCATED THE CREATION OF A CABINET LEVEL DEPARTMENT OF PEACE TO MAKE NONVIOLENCE AN ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE WITHIN OUR SOCIETY. HE BELIEVES THE UNITED STATES CAN BEST LEAD THE WAY THROUGH FULL SUPPORT OF THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY, THE KYOTO CLIMATE ACCORD, THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION, BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION, AND JOINING THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, SIGNING THE LAND MINE TREATY AND SMALL ARMS TREATY.

IN HIS FIFTH TERM IN THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, KUCINICH HAS BEEN A LEADER FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE, A FULL EMPLOYMENT ECONOMY, FULLY-PAID TUITION AT PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, REPEAL OF THE PATRIOT ACT, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOFUELS AS ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND RESTORATION OF AMERICA'S BASIC MANUFACTURING AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

DENNIS KUCINICH FIRST CAME TO NATIONAL PROMINENCE IN 1977 WHEN HE WAS ELECTED MAYOR OF CLEVELAND AT AGE 31, THE YOUNGEST PERSON TO EVER LEAD A MAJOR AMERICAN CITY.

PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING
DENNIS KUCINICH TO POLITICS AND
EGGS.

[APPLAUSE]

REP. DENNIS KUCINICH/ THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE WITH ALL OF YOU THIS MORNING.

OF COURSE, THIS IS MY SECOND VISIT TO POLITICS AND EGGS. AND I WANT TO START OUT BY EXPRESSING MY CONCERN ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THESE GENETICALLY MODIFIED PRODUCTS. I MEAN, THIS IS AN EGG, OKAY?

IT'S MADE OF WOOD.
[LAUGHTER]

NOW, WE USED TO HAVE EGGS.
GOOD MORNING.

AND IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE. WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE TO BE HERE FOUR YEARS AGO, I CAME FROM A POSITION IN AMERICAN POLITICS WHICH CHALLENGED THE INTEGRITY OF THOSE OFFICIALS WHO WERE STANDING TO TAKE THIS COUNTRY INTO A WAR.

AND I ASKED QUESTIONS.

AND I TURNED THOSE QUESTIONS INTO A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S CALL TO TAKE THIS COUNTRY INTO WAR AND HIS REQUEST FOR CONGRESS TO APPROVE IT.

AND THOSE QUESTIONS INVOLVED, WHERE'S THE PROOF THAT IRAQ WAS SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO 9/11? WHERE IS THE PROOF THAT IRAQ HAS THE INTENTION OR CAPABILITY OF ATTACKING THE UNITED STATES? WHERE'S THE PROOF THAT IRAQ HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH 9/11? EVERYTHING THAT I SAID FOUR YEARS AGO TURNED OUT TO BE 100% SPOT ON TRUE.

AND I WANT TO THANK THE REPORTER FROM WMUR WHO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS MORNING.

BECAUSE I THINK THAT'S A GOOD PLACE TO START THE DISCUSSION ABOUT WHERE WE ARE IN AMERICA AT THIS MOMENT.

AND ABOUT WHAT CAN HELP THIS COUNTRY GET OUT OF THE QUAGMIRE WE'RE IN IN IRAQ AND START TO ADDRESS THE PRESSING DOMESTIC CONCERNS WHICH WE ALL HAVE. EVERY ONE OF—MANY OF THE CANDIDATES WHO ARE RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT TO TAKE THIS COUNTRY TO WAR AGAINST IRAQ. AND MANY OF THEM HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE TO KEEP THE WAR GOING, WHICH THE APPROPRIATIONS VOTES MAKE POSSIBLE.

AND I THINK THAT WHAT I CAN DO IN STANDING BEFORE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE RIGHT NOW AND THE PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE IS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT OF ALL THE CANDIDATES SEEKING THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION, THAT I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO HAD THE CLARITY OF VISION TO SAY, DON'T GO TO WAR.

AND THE CLARITY OF VISION TO VOTE AGAINST EACH AND EVERY REQUEST TO CONTINUE TO FUND THE WAR WHICH KEPT IT GOING.

OF ALL THE CANDIDATES, I NOT ONLY SAID, LOOK, WE DON'T HAVE ANY BASIS TO GO TO WAR.

AND WE SHOULD STOP THIS WAR.

AND WE SHOULDN'T FUND THIS WAR. BUT HERE'S A PLAN FOR PEACE TO TAKE US OUT OF THIS WAR.

OF ALL THE CANDIDATES. I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS CHALLENGED THIS DRUM BEAT FOR WAR WITH IRAN AND SAID, LOOK. WE DON'T HAVE ANY RIGHT TO BE SETTING THE STAGE FOR WAR AGAINST IRAN.

OF ALL THE CANDIDATES, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'S TALKING ABOUT THE CENTRALITY OR THE URGENCY OF DEALING WITH THE DIFFICULTIES INVOLVING ISRAEL AND

PALESTINE. AND HOW THE UNITED STATES MUST BE AN EVEN-HANDED BROKER IN HELPING THE PEOPLE OF THE MIDDLE-EAST RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES.

OF ALL THE CANDIDATES I'VE DEMONSTRATED THIS CAPACITY FOR INDEPENDENCE OF THOUGHT, FOR NOT FOLLOWING THE SMUG AND COMPACT MAJORITY, FOR NOT PLAYING TO THE CROWD, BUT SOMETIMES BEING A SINGULAR, SOLITARY FORCE FOR PEACE. AND I STAND BEFORE YOU THIS MORNING WITH THAT AUTHENTICITY AND WITH THAT INTEGRITY, HAVING THE CAPACITY TO LEAD THIS NATION, NOT JUST OUT OF IRAQ, BUT TO LEAD THIS NATION TO A NEW POLICY WHICH REJECTS WAR AS AN INSTRUMENT OF POLICY, WHICH REJECTS WAR AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR DIPLOMACY, WHICH ENVISIONS AN AMERICA THAT CAN MEET THE CHALLENGES OF SECURITY IN A COMPLEX WORLD WITHOUT POLICIES OF PRE-EMPTION, UNILATERALISM AND FIRST STRIKE.

WHICH UNDERSTANDS THAT OUR MISSION AS A NATION IS NOT ONLY TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMMON DEFENSE BUT TO PROMOTE THE GENERAL WELFARE.

BY THE END OF 2008, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL HAVE SPENT OVER \$800 BILLION SPECIFICALLY ON THE WAR AGAINST IRAQ AND ON THE OCCUPATION.

THINK ABOUT THIS IN TERMS OF THE NEED OF THE PEOPLE IN OUR COUNTRY.

SO MANY PEOPLE WITHOUT HEALTHCARE, SO MANY PEOPLE WITHOUT DECENT HOUSING, SO MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE SENDING THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOLS THAT ARE SUBSTANDARD.

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO OUR COUNTRY?

WHAT ARE WE BECOMING?

AS WE SEE THIS MILITARY BUILDUP, AS WE SEE THE FORTUNES OF OUR NATIONS SPENT ON WAR, AS WE BORROW MONEY FROM BEIJING TO PROSECUTE AN OCCUPATION IN BAGHDAD?

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO AMERICA? SO MY CANDIDACY IS A WAKE-UP CALL FOR AMERICA.

MY CANDIDACY PRESENTS THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A PRESIDENT WHO CAN BE A MORAL FORCE, WHO CAN BE SOMEONE WHO CAN STAND FOR PEACE WITH COURAGE, WHO CAN REACH OUT AND EMBRACE THE WORLD COMMUNITY, UNDERSTANDING THE IMPERATIVE OF HUMAN UNITY, UNDERSTANDING THAT THE WORLD IS INTERCONNECTED AND INTERDEPENDENT, THAT IN FACT WE ARE ALL ONE, THAT WE CANNOT ESCAPE THIS COMMON DESTINY WHICH ALL ON THIS PLANET SHARE. AND THEREFORE, AMERICA AND THE WORLD IS WAITING FOR A LEADERSHIP AND A NEW DIRECTION WHICH MEETS THE CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL WARRING AND GLOBAL WARMING, WHICH MEETS THE CHALLENGES OF POVERTY IN AFRICA, WHICH MEETS THE CHALLENGES OF ALL OF THE ISSUES IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH REMAIN UNRESOLVED AS WE CONTINUE TO PROSECUTE A WAR AND AN OCCUPATION THAT'S BEEN BASED ON LIES.

MY PRESIDENCY WILL RE-ESTABLISH CIVIL LIBERTIES IN THIS COUNTRY, BY HAVING THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT GO TO COURT TO OVERTURN THE PATRIOT ACT.

MY PRESIDENCY WILL BE ABOUT FREEING THE UNITED STATES FROM POLICIES OF FEAR.

BECAUSE FEAR HAS BEEN DROPPED LIKE A DARK CLOTH UPON THE PSYCHE OF THIS NATION, CAUSING US TO FEAR EACH OTHER AND OTHER NATIONS.

BUT FEAR IS INCONSISTENT AS WHO WE ARE AS AMERICANS.

WHEN FRANCIS SCOTT KEY WROTE THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER HE RAISED THE QUESTION THAT NEEDS TO BE ASKED IN EVERY TOWN AND EVERY FORUM ON THIS PRESIDENTIAL CAN PAIN.

HE ASKED: "DOES THAT STAR-SPANGLED BANNER YET WAVE OVER THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE?"

HE MADE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN FREEDOM AND BRAVERY, BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND COURAGE. AS A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT AND INDEED AS THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONS, I INTEND TO CALL FORTH THAT COURAGE WHICH IS PART OF WHO WE ARE AS AMERICANS.

TO BE ABLE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF PROVIDING PEACE WITHOUT WAR, TO BE ABLE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF PROVIDING HEALTHCARE FOR ALL, TO BE ABLE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF PROVIDING JOBS AND WORK FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND PROVIDE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH.

AMERICA'S WAITING FOR A PRESIDENT WHO HAS INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY.

AND I'M READY TO MOVE FORWARD TO MEET THAT DEMAND.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
[APPLAUSE]

THANK YOU.
AND NOW I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

IF I COULD GET SOME WATER THERE, THAT WOULD BE GREAT.

THANK YOU.

YES, SIR.
MAN: [INDISCERNIBLE]

REP. KUCINICH/ I AGREE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND WITH KING ABDUL OF JORDAN WHO HAVE BOTH COURAGEOUSLY COME FORWARD TO SAY, LOOK.

WE NEED TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE THE CONCERN OF THE UNITED STATES CREATING PEACE BETWEEN THE PALESTINIANS AND THE ISRAELIS.

NOW, THAT IS NOT AN EASY ORDER BY ANY MEANS.

BUT IT'S MADE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT BY THE UNITED STATES EITHER STAYING ON THE SIDELINES OR TACITLY AND SILENTLY STANDING BY WHILE POLICIES WHICH VIOLATE THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF THE PALESTINIANS CONTINUE. NOW, I SAY THIS AS SOMEONE WHO CONSIDERS HIMSELF A FRIEND OF ISRAEL.

I THINK THAT WE MUST LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY, AS I HAVE, TO ISRAELI OFFICIALS WHO PERCEIVE AN EXISTENTIAL THREAT TO THE SURVIVAL OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. AND I THINK THAT IT'S POSSIBLE TO SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORT THOSE WHO INSIST ON SUPPORTING THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE SURVIVAL OF THAT STATE, AND AT THE SAME TIME STAND IN ALLIANCE WITH THOSE WHO ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DIMINISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PALESTINIANS, FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, FOR ECONOMIC RIGHTS, FOR THE KIND OF LIFE WHICH EVERY CITIZEN OF THE PLANET HAS A RIGHT TO EXPECT. WE NEED A WHOLE NEW DISCUSSION IN THIS CAMPAIGN ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE MIDDLE-EAST.

AND I HAVE THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE TO START THAT KIND OF DISCUSSION.

IT WAS LAST SUMMER THAT MY WIFE AND I WENT TO—I WAS THE FIRST U.S. OFFICIAL WHO WENT SOUTH OF THE LATARDI RIVER INTO SOUTH LEBANON TO SEE THE DESTRUCTION THAT WAS WAGED DURING THE PERIOD OF THAT WAR.

I STOOD ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRIOR TO THAT SAYING THE UNITED STATES MUST TAKE A STAND TO SAY STOP THE BOMBING OF LEBANON.

IN ORDER TO DO THAT WE HAD TO INTERVENE WITH ISRAEL.

BUT WE NOT ONLY DID NOT DO, THAT BUT THERE'S EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT THE UNITED STATES ACTUALLY ENCOURAGED THE CONTINUATION OF THE BOMBING AFTER A PERIOD OF ABOUT SIX DAYS OF WAR.

WHO ARE WE AS A NATION THAT WE WOULD LET THAT HAPPEN?

THAT WE WOULD NOT TRY TO USE OUR INFLUENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL TO TAKE A DIFFERENT APPROACH?

INDEED, THE ADMINISTRATION OF OMERT HAS BEEN IN TROUBLE BECAUSE OF HIS HANDLING OF THE WAR.

SO THE UNITED STATES NEEDS TO BE A HEALING FORCE IN THE WORLD. AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO PUT A HEALING HAND UPON THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD TO FULFILL THAT PROPHECY OF BEATING SWORDS INTO PLOW SHARES AND SPEARS INTO PRUNING HOOKS.

BUT YOU HAVE TO HAVE THE CAPACITY AND THE INTENTION FOR PEACE.

YOU HAVE TO HAVE AN UNDERLYING ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH PEOPLE HAVE IN COMMON.

THE ESSENCE OF WAR IS PEOPLE ARE TOLD, WELL, WE'RE SO DIFFERENT FROM EACH OTHER.

THEREFORE, IN ORDER TO PRESERVE OUR LITTLE BIT OF SPACE THAT WE HAVE TO DESTROY ANOTHER PERSON OR THEY'LL DESTROY US FIRST. IT'S THAT KIND OF THINKING WHICH I'M CHALLENGING.

THAT THINKING OF US VERSUS THEM WHICH SETS US ON A PATH TOWARDS WAR.

SO HAVING THE CAPACITY TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPERATIVE OF HUMAN UNITY.

KNOWING THAT WHEN WE SEE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS KILLING EACH OTHER, IT'S NOT UP FOR US TO TAKE THE SIDE TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR ONE SIDE TO WIN OVER THE OTHER BUT TO INTERVENE SO THEY BOTH MAY SURVIVE, SO THAT BOTH MAY THRIVE.

THAT'S THE TYPE OF THINKING THAT I BRING NOT ONLY TO THIS CAMPAIGN BUT THAT I'LL BRING TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

THANK YOU.
NEXT QUESTION.
YES.

WELCOME AS WELL.

KATHRYN DODGE OF THE POST SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE/ I'M WONDERING WHAT YOUR THOUGHTS ARE ON HOW TO FUND SOME GREAT IDEAS.

I HEARD IN THE INTRODUCTION ABOUT HIRING—FUNDING HIGHER EDUCATION.AND THE SNELLING COMMISSION AND THE WORK THEY'RE DOING AND THE RESULT IT MAY HAVE IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR OF HIGHER ED.

REP. KUCINICH/ FIRST OF ALL, LET ME SPEAK TO WHAT THE POLICIES OF MY ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE WITH RESPECT TO EDUCATION.

IN STRICT TERMS WE'RE SEEING FUNDING FOR EDUCATION CUT.

THE IRONY OF IT IS THAT EDUCATORS ALL OVER THIS COUNTRY HAVE BEEN MANDATED TO HAVE A GREATER DEMONSTRATION OF THE LEARNING CAPACITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE, BUT WE'RE DEPRIVING SCHOOLS OF THE RESOURCES THEY NEED TO

HAVE SMALLER CLASSROOM SIZES, TO HAVE A DIVERSITY OF ARTS AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS THAT HELP SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF THE WHOLE CHILD.

SO LET'S START WITH CHILDREN AT AGE 3.

I'VE PROPOSED AND HAVE ALREADY WRITTEN A BILL AND SUBMITTED IT TO PAST CONGRESSES AND WILL REINTRODUCE IT TO THIS CONGRESS, A BILL TO CREATE AN UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM. SO THAT CHILDREN AGES 3, 4 AND 5 WILL HAVE THE ABILITY TO BE ABLE TO GO TO AN ALL YEAR-ROUND, FULL-DAY PROGRAM OF PRESCHOOL OR DAYCARE.

THIS IS AN URGENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL NEED IN THIS COUNTRY. THERE ARE SO MANY PARENTS WHO CANNOT AFFORD DAYCARE.

IT BECOMES ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES TO FAMILY BUDGETS. THERE ARE WOMEN AND SOME MEN WHO ARE WORKING FULL-TIME JUST TO BE ABLE TO SEND THEIR CHILD TO A DECENT DAYCARE.

WITH SO MANY AMERICAN FAMILIES PRESSED TO HAVE TWO PEOPLE WORKING, WITH SO MANY FAMILIES REALIZING THAT COST OF DAYCARE IS VERY SIMILAR TO THAT OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION, THE NEED FOR A FULL-TIME DAYCARE PROGRAM THAT IS A CONTINUUM AND LEADS INTO—

SO I'VE WRITTEN THIS BILL IN CONSULTATION WITH PEOPLE ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES WHO ARE CHILDREN ADVOCATES, EDUCATORS AND FAMILY ADVOCATES.

AND THE BILL PROVIDES THAT FUNDING WOULD BE AT \$60 BILLION A YEAR TO SET UP THIS PROGRAM.

THAT THE PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE READING SKILLS, SOCIAL SKILLS, NUTRITION COMPONENT.

I TEACH CHILDREN LANGUAGE, ART AND MUSIC.

AND CAPTURE WHAT EVERY CHILD DEVELOPMENTAL EXPERT UNDERSTANDS IS THIS INCREDIBLE CAPACITY WHICH CHILDREN HAVE TO BLOSSOM AT THAT AGE.

BUT SO OFTEN IT'S DETERMINED BY THE INCOME OF THE FAMILY. THIS, THEN, LETS EVERY CHILD BE ABLE TO GROW SO THAT BY THE TIME THEY START IN PRIMARY EDUCATION, THEY HAVE A GREATER CAPACITY FOR LEARNING.

NOW, THE QUESTION COMES HOW ARE YOU GOING TO FUND IT?

AND IT'S INTERESTING THAT WHEN WE TALK ABOUT A WAR AND WHERE WE'RE NOW UP TO \$800 BILLION WHEN WE WERE STARTING IT NO ONE ASKED HOW WE WERE GOING TO FUND IT.

THOSE WHO SUGGESTED IT COULD COST \$200 BILLION WERE TOLD TO LEAST ADMINISTRATION.

THIS WILL BE FUNDED BY A 15% CUT IN THE MILITARY BUDGET.

NOW, LET ME TELL YOU HOW THAT CAN HAPPEN.

SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN IN CONGRESS NOW FOR SIX TERMS, TO HAVE THE PENTAGON COME IN FRONT OF SUBCOMMITTEES EVERY NOW AND THEN AND NOT BE ABLE TO SAY WHERE THE MONEY GOES.

THE PENTAGON HAS NEVER PASSED A BUDGET.

OR EXCUSE ME, THE PENTAGON HAS NEVER BEEN ABLE TO PASS AN AUDIT.

AND THEY HAVE OVER 1100 SEPARATE ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS.

I WOULD SAY THAT THERE ARE SO MANY ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS SO PEOPLE DON'T KNOW WHERE THE MONEY IS GOING.

SO WE'VE LOOKED AT THE WASTE AND FRAUD INSIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. AND THERE'S JUST NO QUESTION THAT THEY COULD TAKE A MINIMUM OF A 15% CUT. YOU TAKE THAT MONEY AND YOU PUT IT RIGHT INTO EDUCATION.

NOW, PEOPLE WILL ASK, WELL, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

ARE WE GOING TO BE NOT ABLE TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY?

WE SPEND MORE THAN THE REST OF THE WORLD PUT TOGETHER. ONE OF THE GREAT FRAUDS OF AMERICA IS TELLING US THAT SOMEHOW WE'RE GOING TO BE SECURE IF WE KEEP SPENDING IN MULTIPLES FOR THE MILITARY AND FORGET ALL THESE OTHER SOCIAL NEED. EDUCATION IS PART OF OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

AS YOU WALK UP THE STAIRS TO THE CAPITOL THERE IS A STATUE ABOVE THE CANOPY OF THE HOUSE OF A WOMAN WHOSE ARM IS OUTSTRETCHED. AND SHE IS PROTECTING A CHILD WHO IS SITTING HAPPILY NEXT TO A PILE OF BOOKS.

THE TITLE OF THAT SCULPTURE IS "PEACE PROTECTING GENIUS." THE GODDESS OF PEACE PROTECTING THE CHILD GENIUS.

NOT WITH NUCLEAR ARMS, NOT WITH THE ARMS OF MILITARY MIGHT. BUT THE IMPLICATION IS THAT PEACE LETS THE CHILD LEARN. AND WE KNOW THAT PEACE WILL PROVIDE THE CHILD WITH THE RESOURCES SO THAT HE OR SHE CAN LEARN.

I INTEND TO SEE FULLY FUNDED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, SMALLER CLASSROOM SIZES, THE END OF NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND WHICH PUTS METRICS FOR A LINEAR TYPE OF PERFORMANCE. SURE WE HAVE TO HAVE SOME WAY OF MEASURING PERFORMANCE. BUT OUR APPROACH HAS BEEN CRUSHING FOR CHILDREN.

WE'RE CRUSHING CREATIVITY IN SCHOOLS.

WE NEED EDUCATION THAT HELPS THE WHOLE CHILD GROW.

SO MY EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY WILL SEEK TO DO THAT, IN ADDITION TO THAT TO FIND THE RESOURCES TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR EVERY YOUNG PERSON TO BE ABLE TO GO TO COLLEGE TUITION-FREE.

WE HAVE TO HAVE THE ABILITY— AND THAT'S A PUBLIC COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY— WE HAVE TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO BE ABLE TO SEE EDUCATION AS ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL NEED OF THIS COUNTRY.

I HAD A MEETING WITH THE AMBASSADOR FROM TUNISIA LAST WEEK AND HE SAID THEY SPENT 33% OF THEIR BUDGET ON EDUCATION. YOU KNOW, MY PRESIDENCY WILL BE ABOUT A WHOLE NEW DIRECTION FOR AMERICA.

AND IT WILL BE A PHILOSOPHICAL BASIS TO IT.

NEXT QUESTION.

YES, SIR.

MIKE HARRINGTON/ YOU ALLUDED IN YOUR OPENING FOR ADHERENCE MORE STRICTLY TO THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY. ALL I'VE SEEN AT MID DISTANCE OVER RECENT YEARS IS THIN COMPLIANCE WITH I THINK ARTICLE VI WHICH COMPELLED US AS ONE OF THE LARGEST IF NOT LARGER POSSESSORS OF ATOMIC WEAPONS TO REDUCE SUBSTANTIALLY THE STOCKPILE OF ATOMIC WEAPONS THAT WE HAVE. WOULD YOU COMMENT FURTHER ON THE ISSUE OF COMPLIANCE AND WHAT YOU WOULD SEE AS AN EFFECTIVE WAY OF INTRODUCING TO A BROADER AUDIENCE THE POTENTIAL FOR HAZARD TO BE UNDERSTATED THAT THIS CONTINUED INDIFFERENCE OR INERTIA IN THIS AREA SUGGESTS?

REP. KUCINICH: YES.

JONATHAN SHELL WROTE A BOOK OVER 30 YEARS AGO CALLED "THE FATE OF THE EARTH" WHERE IN IT HE DISCUSSED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF A NUCLEAR WEAPON WAS USED BY ONE COUNTRY AGAINST ANOTHER. IT WOULD AFFECT THE ENTIRE GLOBE.

SO WE'RE LOOKING AT THE POTENTIAL OF GLOBAL SUICIDE WHEN WE TALK ABOUT NATIONS CONTINUING TO BUILD UP THEIR NUCLEAR ARMS, OR OF THE UNITED STATES GIVING ITS APPROVAL FOR NATIONS TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY AT ITS CORE, AND I WOULD URGE ALL OF YOU TO READ IT, HAS THE MANDATE THAT ALL NATIONS WORK TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS. NOT TO BUILD THEM DOWN, NOT TO STOP BUILDING THEM BUT TO ABOLISH ALL THE WEAPONS. AND BEGINNING WITH ONE OF THE EARLY DECISIONS OF THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION WE'VE GONE IN THE WRONG DIRECTION.

WHEN PRESIDENT BUSH MOVED TO CANCEL THE ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE TREATY, HE TOOK OUT A CORNERSTONE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN NATIONS WHICH INVOLVE WORKING TO GET RID OF THESE WEAPONS. AND NOW WE HEAR TALK OF BUILDING NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

THE "STAR WARS" TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY SO WE CAN INTERCEPT THESE MISSILES AS THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY. THE WHOLE THINKING IS WRONG. THE THINKING ACTUALLY IS VERY FEAR-BASED, THAT WOULD BRING TO US THAT WHICH WE FEAR BY SHUTTING OURSELVES OFF FROM COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER NATIONS WHO FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER FEEL THEY HAVE TO HAVE THOSE WEAPONS IN ORDER TO SURVIVE. THE UNITED STATES MUST LEAD THE WAY IN NUCLEAR ABOLITION. WE MUST LEAD THE WAY BY STOPPING OF FUNDING OF NEW NUCLEAR PROGRAMS.

WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN SENDING BUNKER BUSTERS OUT TO THE MIDDLE-EAST REGION ACCORDING TO THE NEWS REPORTS IN PREPARATION FOR A STRIKE AT IRAN.

WE SHOULDN'T EVEN BE THINKING ABOUT IT.

BECAUSE THIS IS REALLY ABOUT OUR SURVIVAL AND THE SURVIVAL OF THE PLANET.

WE CANNOT BE PROMOTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

SO THE NONPROLIFERATION TREATY WOULD BE SOMETHING THAT I WOULD FOCUS ON.

AND AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES CALL ALL THE LEADERS OF THE WORLD TOGETHER WHO ALREADY HAVE THE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES OR WHO ARE WORKING ON DEVELOPING IT AND SAY, WE HAVE TO WORK COOPERATIVELY TO GET RID OF THESE WEAPONS.

WE ALSO NEED A VERY VIGOROUS INSPECTIONS PROGRAM TO SEE WHO'S TRYING TO GET URANIUM AND WHO'S TRYING TO GET COMPONENTS TO BUILD WEAPONS.

I MEAN, THE WORLD MARKET, WHILE IT'S LARGE IT ALSO UNDERSTANDS WHEN THERE ARE BEING TRANSACTIONS MADE THAT POINT IN THE WAY OF NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT. WE CANNOT INSIST THAT SOMEHOW WE CAN CONNECT OUR NATIONAL SECURITY WITH HAVING BIGGER WEAPONS AND HAVING MORE NUCLEAR WEAPONS THAN ANYONE ELSE. IT'S A FORM OF INSANITY.

SO AGAIN, COMING FROM THIS UNDERSTANDING AS THE WORLD AS ONE, KNOWING THAT THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO ALL, UNDERSTANDING THAT WE HAVE TO INSIST ON HUMAN UNITY AND WE HAVE TO INSIST ON THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE TO SURVIVE, AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES I'LL LEAD THE WAY TO A NEW DAY WHERE WE'RE NOT TRAPPED BY FEAR, WHERE WE'RE NOT PREPARING TO PUT OUR MISSILE SYSTEMS ON DEFCON ALERT BUT WHERE

WE'RE ACTUALLY LOOKING TO ABOLISH THEM AND TO CREATE A WORLD WITH HOPE, A WORLD WHICH HAS THE CAPACITY TO GROW FAR INTO THE FUTURE.

THANK YOU.

YES.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN/ HEALTHCARE. ANOTHER DOMESTIC ISSUE.

WHAT IS YOUR PLAN FOR HEALTHCARE?

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

HOW WOULD YOU FUND IT?

AND ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE?

REP. KUCINICH: THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION, DO I HAVE A PLAN IS YES.

I'M THE CO-AUTHOR OF H.R. 676, THE CONYERS-KUCINICH BILL, WHICH ESTABLISHES MEDICARE FOR ALL. NOW, LET ME BACK UP FOR A MOMENT AND LET'S DISCUSS THE ECONOMICS OF HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA. AMERICANS CURRENTLY SPEND \$2.2 TRILLION A YEAR ON HEALTHCARE.

THAT'S ABOUT 16% OF OUR GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

IF ALL THAT MONEY WENT FOR CARE FOR PEOPLE, WE WOULD HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO MEET EVERY MEDICAL NEED IN THE UNITED STATES.

BUT ACCORDING TO ONE STUDY BY HARVARD UNIVERSITY, 31 CENTS OUT OF EVERY DOLLAR GOES FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FOR-PROFIT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM THROUGH CORPORATE PROFITS, STOCK OPTIONS, EXECUTIVE SALARIES, ADVERTISING, MARKETING, THE COST OF PAPERWORK, 15 TO 30% AS COMPARED TO MEDICARE'S 2 TO 3%. IF YOU DO THE MATH, AT CURRENT SPENDING RATES, WE SPEND OVER \$660 BILLION A YEAR RIGHT NOW FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THIS FOR-PROFIT SYSTEM.

UNDER MY PLAN, A PLAN WHICH IS EMBODIED IN LEGISLATION WHICH HAS 62 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ON AS COSPONSORS, WE WOULD TAKE THAT MONEY AND WE WOULD PUT IT INTO A NOT FOR PROFIT SYSTEM.

AND WE WOULD HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO COVER NOT ONLY ALL MEDICALLY NECESSARY CARE, BUT ALSO VISION CARE, DENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, LONG-TERM CARE, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

IT CAN ALL BE COVERED.

THERE'S SO MUCH MONEY IN THIS SYSTEM RIGHT NOW.

BUT THE SYSTEM IS HEALTHCARE FOR PROFIT AND IT'S BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT HEALTHCARE IS A PRIVILEGE.

MY PLAN IS BASED ON THE

ASSUMPTION THAT HEALTHCARE IS A RIGHT.

ALL THE OTHER PLANS THAT YOU'VE HEARD PEOPLE TALK ABOUT, THEY ALL SAY THEY'RE FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE.

WHY EVEN THE FOR PROFIT INSURANCE COMPANIES ARE FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE AS LONG AS THE GOVERNMENT IS BUYING ITS INSURANCE FROM THEM AND SUBSIDIZING THOSE FOR PROFIT COMPANIES THEY'RE ALL FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE.

BUT THE PROBLEMS FACING MOST AMERICAN FAMILIES AND MOST AMERICAN BUSINESSES IS THAT WE'RE TRAPPED BY RISING PREMIUMS, CO-PAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES.

THERE IS NO FAMILY THAT CAN ESCAPE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS SYSTEM.

AMERICA HAS A RISING RATE OF BANKRUPTCIES.

HALF OF THOSE BANKRUPTCIES ARE UP STATES ARE CONNECTED TO PEOPLE NOT BEING ABLE TO PAY THEIR DOCTOR BILLS.

THREE QUARTERS OF THOSE BANKRUPTCIES RELATE TO PEOPLE WHO ARE WORKING.

THIS IS A TRAGEDY IN THIS COUNTRY.

AND IT'S ONE THAT IS AFFECTING EVERYONE.

SOME OF OUR LARGEST BUSINESSES ARE FINDING THAT IT'S UNSUSTAINABLE FOR THEM TO CONTINUE TO SPEND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS ON HEALTHCARE.

THEY CAN'T DO IT AND REMAIN COMPETITIVE.

SO THIS RELATES TO THE HEALTH OF OUR NATION, THE COMPETITIVENESS OF OUR BUSINESSES, AND WHETHER OR NOT AMERICA HAS THE SENSE TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE COURSE WHEN WE SEE THE SYSTEM WE HAVE IS UNDENIABLY WRONG.

NOW, ALL THESE OTHER CANDIDATES WHO ARE TALKING ABOUT UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE, THEY'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT WHAT I'M SPEAKING OF. NOT TALKING ABOUT THE END OF FOR PROFIT MEDICINE.

THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT CONTINUING TO LET THE INSURANCE COMPANIES HAVE THE ROLE IN DICTATING HEALTH POLICY AND A SYSTEM FOR WHICH PREMIUMS, CO-PAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES, THERE'S NO END IN SIGHT.

AND SO MY PLAN DEALS WITH THE PROBLEM OF UNDER INSURANCE. 46 MILLION AMERICANS, NO INSURANCE.

ANOTHER 50 MILLION UNDER INSURED.

EVERYONE WILL BE COVERED.

THE OTHERS DON'T.

MY PLAN DEALS WITH CONTROLLING COSTS BECAUSE THERE WOULD BE A BOARD SET UP THAT WOULD HAVE TO STRICTLY CONTROL THE COST TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU COULD ALLOCATE THE BROADER SERVICES. NONE OF THE OTHERS HAVE A PLAN.

MINE LIMITS THE PROFIT MOTIVE.

NONE OF THE OTHER PLANS DO THAT.

THEY ACTUALLY SUPPORT IT. MINE HAS A NATIONAL MOVEMENT BEHIND IT.

14,000 POSITIONS SUPPORT H.R.

676.

250 LABOR UNIONS, BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS ARE SUPPORTING THIS BECAUSE THEY REALIZE THERE'S NO OTHER DIRECTION WE CAN TAKE.

WHY IS IT THAT I CAN PROPOSE THIS AND OTHER CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT WILL NOT?

IT'S BECAUSE OF THE INFLUENCE WHICH THIS INSURANCE-BASED, FOR PROFIT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM HAS IN OUR POLITICS.

I TOOK THIS PROPOSAL TO THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM COMMITTEE IN THE YEAR 2000.

AND I WAS TOLD THEN BY THE GORE CAMPAIGN, WE CAN'T SUPPORT THIS BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT WHICH THE CAMPAIGN WAS RECEIVING FROM THE FOR PROFIT INSURANCE COMPANIES. AND THE SAME PROPOSAL WAS SET ASIDE IN 2004 WHEN I TOOK IT TO THE PLATFORM COMMITTEE AGAIN. IT WAS VOTED DOWN.

LOOK, OUR POLITICS NEED

INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INDEPENDENT AND ARE ABLE TO TAKE A STAND. SENATOR CLINTON, SENATOR EDWARDS AT A HEALTHCARE FORUM IN NEVADA A WEEK AND A HALVING A SAID, LOOK, THIS PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE PAIR NOT FOR PROFIT IS NOT ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE.

YOU'LL NEVER GET IT PASSED. THINK ABOUT WHAT THAT MEANS WHEN A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT SAYS YOU JUST CAN'T TOUCH IT.

WHAT IT MEANS IS THAT WE ARE LOCKED INTO THIS SYSTEM.

AND IT MEANS IT'S A CAPITULATION OF THESE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS.

I COME FROM A PLACE OF INDEPENDENTS AND FROM A PLACE WHERE I KNOW IT'S POSSIBLE FOR A PRESIDENT TO RALLY THE PEOPLE LIKE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DID IN 1932 WHO GIVE ME A CONGRESS WHO WILL GIVE YOU A NEW DEAL.

I'LL SAY GIVE ME A CONGRESS THAT GIVES YOU HEALTHCARE.

GIVE ME A CONGRESS TO MAKE SURE YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THE HEALTH OF YOUR PEOPLE AND NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT GOING INTO THE SAVINGS FUNDS THAT SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION OR SETTING ASIDE ALL THAT YOU'VE WORKED FOR YOUR WHOLE LIFE.

THIS IS REALLY THE CORE DOMESTIC POLICY ISSUE.

AND IT REQUIRES THAT SOMEONE HAVE NOT ONLY THE INDEPENDENCE OF THOUGHT BUT THE INDEPENDENCE THAT COMES FROM BEING ABLE TO STAND UP TO THESE INTEREST GROUPS WHICH ARE ABSOLUTELY TRYING TO DIRECT THE POLITICS OF OUR COUNTRY.

H.R. 676.

MEDICARE FOR ALL.

THE CONYERS KUCINICH BILL. IT'S ON MY WEBSITE AT KUCINICH.U.S.

I WOULD ASK EVERYONE TO LOOK AT IT BECAUSE IT WOULD BE THE ONLY PLAN THAT ENDS THIS HEALTHCARE FOR PROFIT WHICH IS SO DAMAGING TO OUR COUNTRY.

YES, SIR.

AND THEN WE'LL GO IN THE BACK THERE.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: CONGRESSMAN, I'M A MEDICAL ONCOLOGIST.

I APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.

BUT ALL THE WONDERFUL IDEAS THAT YOU TALK ABOUT ARE GOING TO COST A LOT OF MONEY.

AND SOME WOULD SAY MORE THAN WHAT WE WOULD GET IF WE WEREN'T IN THE CONFLICT IN IRAQ.

SO WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS ABOUT ADVANCING THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE IN THIS COUNTRY AND BUSINESS SO THAT WE'LL HAVE THE MONEY THROUGH TAXATION AND OTHER MEANS AND THE VIBRANCY AND THE SPIRIT AND TECHNOLOGY TO BRING US TO A BETTER PLACE IN THIS COUNTRY?

MR. KUCINICH: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, DOCTOR. AND THANKS FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO HEALTHCARE. BECAUSE I THINK THAT WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS TO BE ABLE TO LET DOCTORS PRACTICE AND NOT HAVE TO DEAL WITH AN ENDLESS STREAM OF INSURANCE COMPANIES AND NOT HAVE TO ARGUE WITH INSURANCE COMPANIES ABOUT WHETHER THEY CAN PROVIDE THE TREATMENT WHICH PATIENTS NEED AND NOT HAVE TO HAVE THEIR JUDGMENT SUBSTITUTED BY INSURANCE COMPANIES.

MY PROPOSAL WILL RESTORE THE ROLE BETWEEN A DOCTOR AND A PATIENT AND WILL LET THE DOCTOR MAKE THE DECISIONS, NOT THE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

NOW, THE QUESTION OF HOW ARE YOU GOING TO PAY FOR IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL HERE. I'M SAYING THAT WE'RE ALREADY PAYING FOR.

THIS WE'RE JUST NOT GETTING IT.

I POINTED OUT THE

\$2.2 TRILLION AND HOW 31 CENTS OUT OF EVERY DOLLAR GOES FOR PROFIT.

YOU TAKE THAT MONEY, THAT'S THE SAVINGS, 660 BILLION.

YOU KEEP IN MIND THAT 60% OF ALL HEALTHCARE SPENDING RIGHT NOW IS BEING DONE BY THE GOVERNMENT, ANYWAY.

YOU KEEP IN MIND THAT GOVERNMENT HAS THE CAPACITY TO NEGOTIATE PRICES ON DRUGS WITH TREMENDOUS SAVINGS.

A MAJOR PART OF THE COST FOR HEALTHCARE IN AMERICA THESE DAYS IS THE COST OF PHARMACEUTICALS. THE GOVERNMENT CURRENTLY NEGOTIATES WITH THE VETERAN ADMINISTRATION TO GET A ROCK BOTTOM PRICE.

WITH THE BUYING POWER THAT WOULD REPRESENT BEING ABLE TO NEGOTIATE ON BEHALF OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS, SUDDENLY THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE IN A POSITION OF BEING ABLE TO NEGOTIATE ROCK BOTTOM PRICES FROM THE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES.

AND THAT SAVINGS THEN IS PART OF THE MONEY THAT WE NEED IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THE SYSTEM.

NOW, LET'S SAY—AND BY PUTTING A FOCUS ON PREVENTATIVE HEALTHCARE, YOU SUDDENLY CREATE A TRANSITION WHERE SO MANY PEOPLE AREN'T PRESENTING THEMSELVES IN AN ACUTE CONDITION TO HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS. SO MANY PEOPLE NOW NOT HAVING HEALTHCARE, THE EMERGENCY ROOM BECOMES THE FIRST PLACE THEY GO TO WHEN THINGS HAVE JUST FALLEN APART.

THIS PROVIDES FOR A MORE HEALTHY NATION SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN UP THE COSTS THAT INEVITABLY COME WHEN SOMEONE PRESENTS THEMSELVES IN AN ACUTE CONDITION OR EVEN WORSE, IN CRITICAL CONDITION, TO WHERE THE EXPENSES STARTING TO THROUGH THE ROOF. SO THERE'S INHERENT SAVINGS BUILT IN THIS TYPE OF A PLAN, AND THIS PLAN SPECIFICALLY, MEDICARE FOR ALL.

NOW, LET'S SUPPOSE THAT EVEN WITH ALL THE SAVINGS IN THE SYSTEM, EVEN IF YOU LOOK AT THE TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT YOU GET FROM ENDING FOR PROFIT MEDICINE, LET'S SUPPOSE YOU NEED MORE RESOURCES.

IF YOU NEED MORE RESOURCES YOU DO WHAT MAKES SENSE, AND THAT IS YOU INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT PEOPLE PAY INTO MEDICARE. BUT CONSIDER THAT RIGHT NOW, MANY FAMILIES ARE PAYING \$5,000 A YEAR, \$10,000 A YEAR OR MORE.

THE PLAN THAT I'M TALKING ABOUT PUTS MONEY INTO THE POCKETS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND ENABLES THE GOVERNMENT TO FUNCTION IN THE WAY THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD, PROVIDING A SERVICE IN HEALTHCARE THE SAME WAY THE GOVERNMENT HAS AN OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE A SERVICE FOR EDUCATION, THE SAME WAY THE GOVERNMENT HAS AN OBLIGATION TO SECURE THE RETIREMENT OF OUR PEOPLE. THE SAME WAY THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES SO MANY SERVICES. BUT AGAIN, BEING ABLE TO DELIVER ON THIS DEPENDS ON HAVING A PRESIDENT WHO ISN'T CONSTRAINED POLITICALLY BY THESE INTEREST GROUPS.

WHEN YOU READ ABOUT ALL THE MONEY THAT'S BEING RAISED RIGHT NOW IN THIS PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN, PEOPLE ARE INVESTING IN CANDIDATES.

AND THEY EXPECT A TOP RETURN ON THEIR DOLLAR.

AND THOSE INVESTMENTS ARE BEING MADE BY INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT WANT TO SEE OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM CHANGE, WHO DO NOT WANT TO SEE US GET OUT OF WAR, WHO DO NOT WANT TO SEE US GO INTO ALTERNATIVE ENERGIES BUT WANT TO KEEP US IN COAL, URANIUM, OIL. SO LOOK, I'M NOT NEW IN POLITICS.

I STARTED MY CAREER 40 YEARS AGO.

AND BECAUSE OF THAT EXPERIENCE

-- I MEAN, I KNOW HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS.

BUT I ALSO KNOW THE CAPACITY OF THE SYSTEM.

I KNOW THE TRANSFORMATIVE CAPACITY WHICH AMERICA HAS. AND THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO CALL FORWARD IN THIS CAMPAIGN, THAT TRANSFORMATIVE CAPACITY THAT CAN TAKE AMERICA INTO A PLACE WHERE WE CAN MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL OUR PEOPLE, WHERE WE CAN HAVE TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR ALL, WHERE WE CAN ENABLE OUR PEOPLE TO BE HEALTHY AND WEALTHY AND ENABLE OUR PEOPLE TO BE PART OF CITIZENS OF THE WORLD WHERE WE CAN MOVE FEARLESSLY INTO THE WORLD COMMUNITY WITHOUT EVER HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT THE POLICIES OF OUR GOVERNMENT WHICH MAKES LIFE A LITTLE BIT MORE RISKY AND DANGEROUS.

NEXT QUESTION.

IN THE BACK THERE.

YES, SIR.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN/ GOOD MORNING.

I'M FROM FRANKLIN PIERCE COLLEGE.

I WAS JUST WONDERING, I OFTEN HEAR WHEN I TALK ABOUT YOU AND I HEAR PEOPLE SAY, OH, WELL, KUCINICH, I LIKE HIS IDEAS.

IT'S REALLY GOOD.

BUT, YOU KNOW, UP AGAINST HILLARY AND OBAMA HE DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE.

WHAT DO YOU SAY—I DISAGREE. BUT WHAT DO YOU SAY TO PEOPLE, THAT YOU KNOW, THAT SAY THAT? THAT HAVE THAT IDEA?

REP. KUCINICH: WELL, THE QUESTION ISN'T SO MUCH—SENATOR CLINTON AND SENATOR OBAMA HAVE VOTED 100% OF THE TIME TO CONTINUE TO FUND THE WAR.

THE QUESTION ISN'T WHETHER I HAVE A CHANCE, IT'S WHETHER NOT FOR PROFIT HEALTHCARE HAS A CHANCE AND WHETHER THE AMERICAN FAMILY HAS A CHANCE.

SENATOR CLINTON'S PROGRAM IN 1993 WAS ABOUT COMPETITION BETWEEN INSURANCE COMPANIES. IT WASN'T ABOUT A NOT FOR PROFIT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.

I SAID A WEEK AGO THAT SENATOR CLINTON IN A HEALTHCARE FORUM IN NEVADA WAS ONE OF THOSE WHO CHALLENGED THE IDEA OF WHETHER YOU COULD DELIVER ON A NOT FOR PROFIT SYSTEM SINGLE PAYER. SHE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT KIND OF A SYSTEM.

SO IT ISN'T WHETHER I HAVE A CHANCE.

DO PEOPLE HAVE A CHANCE FOR JOBS, DO THEY HAVE A CHANCE FOR A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, DO THEY HAVE A CHANCE FOR PEACE IN IRAQ AND A CHANCE FOR PEACE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND IRAN? THESE ARE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS THAT AFFECT THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND AROUND THE COUNTRY.

SO INEVITABLY WE GET AWAY FROM THE HORSE RACE ASPECTS OF POLITICS.

THE PEOPLE THEN ASK, WHAT DOES THE ELECTION OF THIS PARTICULAR PERSON MEAN FOR ME?

AND SO WHEN SOMEONE VOTES FOR THIS CANDIDATE, WHAT YOU GET IS SOMEONE WHO CANNOT BE BOUGHT, CANNOT BE INTIMIDATED, WHO CAN TAKE A STAND AND CHALLENGE THE POLITICAL CONSENSUS, WHO HAS THE CAPACITY TO WORK WITH PEOPLE IN BOTH PARTIES, WHO HAS THE CAPACITY TO REACH OUT TO ALL THOSE WHO DESCRIBE THEMSELVES AS INDEPENDENTS, WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO TAKE A STAND FOR PEACE, WHO LOOKS AT THE WORLD AS BEING ONE.

IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT YOU ASK THESE CANDIDATES WHAT THEIR WORLD VIEW HAPPENS TO BE. BECAUSE IF YOU CAN GET THAT, YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IF THEY'LL GO TO WAR OR NOT.

AND SO THE QUESTION IS NOT WHICH INDIVIDUAL IS GOING TO WIN THIS ELECTION, BUT AFTER ALL IS SAID AND DONE WILL THE PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WIN?

WILL THE PEOPLE OF NEVADA WIN? WILL THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA WIN?

IT'S THE QUESTION PEOPLE HAVE TO ASK THEMSELVES.

AND SO MY CANDIDACY PRESENTS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WITH A CHANCE TO TAKE A TOTALLY NEW DIRECTION, THE DIRECTION OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

I SEE THE TWO AS BEING INEXTRICABLY LINKED.

PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR 40 YEARS.

I'M A PRACTICAL POLITICIAN.

AND I UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON THESE DAYS IS TOTALLY WRONG. IT IS TOTALLY IMPRACTICAL.

BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES ARE INVOLVED IN A DEBATE THAT'S GOING TO KEEP US AT WAR.

BOTH POLITICAL PARTIES ARE FROZEN TO WHERE THEY CANNOT TAKE A STAND FOR A NOT FOR PROFIT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM.

AND YET MYSELF RISING FROM THE RANKS FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SEES THE POTENTIAL TO TRANSFORM OUR POLITICS.

AND I WON'T ACCEPT ANYTHING LESS THAN THAT.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT?

I KNOW THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THAT CAPACITY.

BECAUSE WHEN I TRAVELLED ACROSS THIS COUNTRY, I'VE SEEN THE UNITY THAT EXISTS THAT FOR THOSE WHO TRY TO SAY THAT WE'RE DIFFERENT REGION TO REGION, IT'S NOT TRUE.

THERE'S AN UNDERLYING UNITY IN THIS COUNTRY AND AN UNDERLYING HUNGER FOR INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY FOR PEOPLE IN PUBLIC LIFE.

THAT'S WHAT I PRESENT TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

I MAY NOT PRESENT A CAMPAIGN BANKROLL THAT HAS \$21 MILLION IN THIS FIRST QUARTER.

BUT I DO PRESENT THE QUALITIES OF INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY, WHICH ARE PRICELESS.

THANK YOU.

[APPLAUSE]
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MICHAEL CHANEY/THANK YOU.

I DID WANT TO RESERVE ONE LAST QUESTION WHICH AS A VETERAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, YOUR VIEW OF THE MASSIVE FRONT-LOADED SCHEDULE ON FEBRUARY 5 THAT'S APPEARING AND ALSO NEW HAMPSHIRE'S ROLE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION PROCESS.

MR. KUCINICH: FIRST OF ALL, YOU KNOW, IT'S VERY EASY TO STAND HERE AND SAY, WELL, I SUPPORT NEW HAMPSHIRE STAYING AS THE FIRST PRIMARY. AND I DO. BUT I SAY THAT EVERYWHERE.

NEXT.
I LIKE THE WAY THIS THING IS DEVELOPING.
I'LL TELL YOU WHY.

A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN PAT BUCHANAN SHOCKED EVERYONE AND TOOK NEW HAMPSHIRE, THE POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT WAS ABLE TO REORGANIZE AND GET READY FOR HIM IN THE SERIES OF PRIMARIES THAT CAME A FEW WEEKS LATER. THE FRONT LOADING OF ALL THESE PRIMARIES MEANS THAT NEW HAMPSHIRE HAS A PRIMACY WHICH CAN CHANGE AMERICAN POLITICS. IF THE PEOPLE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SUPPORT MY CANDIDACY, WHICH REPRESENTS A TRUE DIRECTION FOR PEACE AND END NOT JUST THE WAR OF IRAQ BUT THE REJECTION OF WAR AS AN INSTRUMENT OF POLICY, THEN WHAT HAPPENS IS, ALL OF THESE PRIMARIES AND CAUCUSES THAT ARE RIGHT BEHIND NEW HAMPSHIRE AND EVERYBODY IS LOADING UP COMING RIGHT BEHIND, NEW HAMPSHIRE IS GOING TO HAVE THAT CATALYTIC EFFECT TO TRANSFORM AMERICAN POLITICS.

WITH THE TIME LAG BETWEEN NEW HAMPSHIRE AND OTHER PRIMARIES, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S IMPACT IS STRONG BUT NOT SO QUITE.

AT THIS POINT, WHEN NEW HAMPSHIRE VOTES IN THIS SYSTEM THAT'S DEVELOPING?
I LOVE IT.

WHAT IT DOES FOR ME IS BREAKING THROUGH NEW HAMPSHIRE PUTS ME ON THE PATH OF BEING ABLE TO EMERGE ALL ACROSS THE THIS COUNTRY LIKE THIS.

BUT I HAVE TO ORGANIZE.

AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON DOING.

HAVING AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS THE CAPACITY FOR RAPID GROWTH. THAT'S CHALLENGING, I'LL ADMIT.

LET ME TELL YOU.

I LIKE THE FACT THAT ALL THESE STATES ARE RUSHING TO THE FOREFRONT SAYING WE WANT TO BE RIGHT BEHIND NEW HAMPSHIRE. BECAUSE WHEN I RUN STRONG IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. WHEN I CARRY NEW HAMPSHIRE IT'S GOING TO PUT NEW HAMPSHIRE IN THE POSITION OF HAVING ELECTED THE NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES WHO WILL STAND FOR HEALTHCARE FOR ALL, NOT FOR PROFIT HEALTH CARE, WHO WILL STAND FOR PEACE AND WILL STAND FOR A NEW DIRECTION FOR AMERICA NOT ONLY AT HOME BUT IN THE WORLD.

PLEASE GO TO KUCINICH.U.S. FOR MORE INFORMATION.

AND IT'S GREAT TO BE HERE AT POLITICS AND EGGS.

AND I HOPE THE NEXT TIME I'M HERE I'M HERE AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

[APPLAUSE]

MICHAEL CHANEY/ THAT CONCLUDES THIS MORNING'S PROGRAM.

WE WILL SEE YOU AT THE NEXT

POLITICS AND EGGS EVENT.

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WEBCAST AND THE VIDEO ARCHIVES PROJECT. POLITICS AND EGGS IS A PROJECT OF

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE POLITICAL LIBRARY AND THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL WITH

SUPPORT FROM B.A.E. SYSTEMS, CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND

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