

Thank you.

X { So many of you have been encouraging to my new project, and I thank you for your volunteer help and your connections and, yes, your money—which is coming in much faster than we expected.

{ There are many people who are doubtful that a 94 year-old woman can get from here to the U.S. Senate, but there are good reasons to think this campaign will work, and I am not in the habit of losing.

We live in amazing times—times that history will record as a great moment of peril for our democracy-- ,and one of the more amazing facts of this moment is that we are, all of us, stepping up to do what we can—even those of us who might rather be enjoying retirement.

I am now running for the things I have walked long for: a decent government that represents the values, the needs, and the highest aspirations of its people—a government where the people do participate, and, through their cooperative action as a local, state and national community, become that government. In this, we send our neighbors and, yes, our grandmothers to Congress, because the professional politicians have just not worked out. Democracy cannot be hired out. There is too much

power involved, and it corrupts absolutely if we, the common people, do not manage it ourselves with a humble spirit and a willingness to cast our own self-interest into oblivion.

That phrase comes from the constitution of the Five Nations of the Iroquois, by the way, which was used as a model for our present Constitution. In swearing in leaders to the great democratic council, they were sworn-in thusly:

“Your heart shall be filled with peace and good will and your mind filled with a yearning for the welfare of the people. With endless patience you shall carry out your duty and your firmness shall be tempered with tenderness for your people. Neither anger nor fury shall find lodgement in your mind, and all your words and actions shall be marked with calm deliberation. In all of your deliberations, in your efforts at law making, in all your official acts, self interest shall be cast into oblivion.”

Friends, we cannot afford a “we the people” and a “them the government.” We must do this democracy ourselves.

So, a vote for me is a vote against career politicians and a vote against Washington special interests, but

the things I give voters a choice FOR are far more important:

Let me talk about just one of those things I am for: I am for real security for our nation and its people. Career politicians, whose careers feed on fear, think the question is, "How can we defend ourselves in an increasingly hostile world?"

The better question is, "Why is the world becoming a more dangerous place for us?" That is the question that can lead us toward real security. Though it is a long road, the very act of beginning brings great rewards. Beginning such a journey is what authentic political leadership is about, and I am not afraid of long journeys.

The world is now too small, too full of people, too full of powerful, pocket-size weapons for us to even think we can have a free world that is safe if it is not characterized--in each of its far corners--by justice, productivity, the nurturing of every person's potential, and for the responsible balance between personal freedom and personal responsibility, and between our needs today and the needs of future generations.

What does that mean in terms of how and where we, as a nation and as families, get our energy and our

food? What does it require of us in adapting our urban forms, our lifestyles and our commercial systems?

If our choice is between a strip-searched, fortress America and, on the other hand, the beautiful world we all long for, what is keeping us from making the beautiful choice? Is it the distortions of the political system? The special interests? The selfish posturing of people who call themselves leaders but who, in fact, only take up valuable space at a critical time in the world's history?

Well, let us joyfully roll over them. We thank them for trying their best under the constraints of a corrupt system. But we the people are going to have to do this ourselves from now on, because our children, our schools, our health care, our position in the world and our hearts need better representation, and we do have the power—you and I--to do whatever we lean our hearts into.

It comes down to this: if you want something done right today, you have to run for Congress yourself--or at least send your grandmother or a good neighbor. That's the amazing moment we have come to. And millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Granite Staters feel this way.

So, when we all wake up the morning after the election, I will be happy--for I love the smell of landslides in the morning.

Thank you.