



Red Mountain Tea Party Weekly Meeting

**Monday, February 6, 2012
Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer**

Good evening.

I know it's faded from the headlines a little, but, before I get started, I want to clear up one thing.

When I met President Obama at the airport recently -- the greeting wasn't as hostile as the media reported.

I really wasn't pointing at him.

He just asked me how he was doing in Arizona ... and that's when I held up my finger, and said: "You have one more year!"

You know, the President needs to understand that he is the president of a federal republic and not a king lording over state governors.

I'm reminded of President Obama whenever I think of that line in the movie "Braveheart" -- when Mel Gibson's character -- William Wallace -- says to Lord Craig, -- "There is a difference between us. You think the people of this country exist to provide you with position. I think your position exists to provide those people with freedom. And I go to make sure that they have it."

Here's a newsflash for the President: "You can try to ignore me, you can sue me and you can even walk away when I'm talking to you. However, this is one governor who will not back down until you do your duty for the State of Arizona and America!"

Now, I understand that President Obama's campaign thinks Arizona is in play ... that he can win here.

What do you think?

I say . . . game on!

Arizonans are smart.

They actually remember what politicians promise them. So, they're going to hold President Obama accountable for all his broken promises.

Does he actually think he can run on his record of failure?

Here's a little pop quiz for you.

Who remembers that President Obama promised in 2009 he'd cut the federal budget deficit in half?

In fact, he's accumulated more debt than any president -- and in a shorter period of time.

Who remembers that the Obama Administration promised in 2009 it would keep unemployment below 8 percent -- if the stimulus package passed?

In fact, America lost over a million jobs since Obama's stimulus plan passed, and unemployment is still over 8 percent.

Who remembers we were told that President Obama's housing plan -- announced in Arizona -- would --"Stem the spread of foreclosures and falling home values for all Americans"?

In fact, housing prices have dropped by more than they did during the Great Depression.

And, who remembers that the Obama Administration proclaimed "the border was more secure than ever"?

In fact, our own military leaders said recently that the country lacks a comprehensive border security plan.

And, what does President Obama do -- he sues the State of Arizona -- and me -- for doing his job!

This November, Americans will make a choice about what's right and what's wrong.

Here's what I believe ...

Wrong is destroying all the jobs associated with the Keystone Pipeline and forcing Canada to sell the oil to China.

Wrong is the Obama administration taking 1 million acres in northern Arizona out of consideration for uranium mining – a decision estimated to cost the Arizona economy more than \$10 billion worth of economic activity over the next two decades – not to mention good jobs in a rural area of our state.

Wrong is our federal government shipping guns to the Mexican cartels in the Fast-and-Furious Operation . . . and no one in Washington taking responsibility.

Wrong is allowing those guns to be used by border gangs to shoot a brave and noble border patrol agent -- Agent Brian Terry.

So, what's right you ask?

Right is calling a terrorist, well . . . a terrorist!

Right is being free to work hard, play by the rules -- and succeed beyond your wildest dreams -- without someone telling you that you're making too much money.

Right is not being afraid to say to illegal aliens – you deserve no favoritism!

-- You deserve no special treatment ...

-- No drivers licenses! ...

-- No special language privileges!...

-- No jobs ahead of unemployed Americans! ...

-- Obey our laws.

-- And get in line -- they way thousands of others have done -- the right way -- the legal way!

Right is what we're doing -- right here in Arizona. We brought this great state back from the brink.

By developing a strong workforce and keeping state regulations lean and taxes competitive, we must continue putting in place the conditions needed to grow this economy.

Therefore, I'm asking the Legislature to consider a package of reforms to consolidate the state's multiple personnel systems -- improve the management of the workforce -- restructure the

grievance and appeal system -- and modify human resource practices.

These reforms begin with what I call the Centennial Edition of my Four Cornerstones – including improving Arizona’s economic competitiveness; bringing needed reforms to K-12 and higher education; modernizing state government; and challenging a federal government that has exceeded its constitutional authority.

In order to remove barriers to job creation -- to give small businesses the stability and predictability they deserve – and to promote economic freedom – I’m pursuing improvements in Personal Property Tax, and the Transaction Privilege Tax.

My budget is based on four principles:

First, short-term decisions must be evaluated in light of their impact on the State’s long-term fiscal health.

Second, funding for a program will not be restored simply because funding has been provided in the past.

Third, spending decisions must respect the wishes of citizens who, in voting for Proposition 100, recognized the importance of funding for education, health care and public safety; and ...

Fourth, temporary resources will be used to improve the State's long-term position.

Now, fixing what afflicts our great nation will not be so easy. But, thanks to the Tea Party, the 2010 election was historic and consequential, and, if we continue to pull together and work hard there is going to be another like it this year.

I'm so very grateful to have shared this evening with you, and to have drawn strength from being with you.

In closing, let me quote from Bill Kristol:

"Fear not the Tea Parties. Be open to fundamental reforms. Belt-tightening and program-trimming, more transparency and greater efficiency, are not enough.

"The danger for Republicans isn't that they will address the current crisis too boldly. It's that they won't be bold enough."

May God bless you and your families, our tea parties, and our Great State of Arizona. And may God always bless and protect the United States of America. Thank you.