



COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL POLICY

Remarks

Bobby Jindal

I think at the next meeting the Vice President needs to introduce the President. There is a little bit more to that story of the bicycle built for two. It was a bicycle built for two and the reason we wandered off is because I was in the backseat, Lawanna was in the front and she was also doing all the pedaling. She has been doing that for thirty years. Well it is a privilege for me tonight to introduce our next guest the Governor of the great state of Louisiana. Many people don't realize this but I'm not originally from here in Louisiana, I've been here since I was about eighteen years old since my folks moved here when I was a senior in high school from Oklahoma. I will tell you, I did everything I could to get out of this state because it was a state that was known for political corruption. It was a state that had very little in terms of opportunities for people. Then I met my wife and I was stuck here in the state of Louisiana. But then the Lord really began to burden my heart to be a part of changing this state and helping make it a better state. It has changed dramatically in the last ten years as I have been at The Family Research Council. I used to travel the country, Louisiana was the butt of most of the jokes and you had to be very specific when you mentioned that you served so many terms in Louisiana when you were a public official. You had to be specific, you meant office and not prison. Literally, there was the Governor who was a Governor for about fifteen minutes when I was sworn in office about three years later went to the Federal Pen and just got out. By now he has his own reality show that is coming up but that is another story. But I had the opportunity to first meet our guest tonight back when he began his service here in Louisiana as the head of the Secretary for Health and Hospitals here. He was twenty-four years old when Governor Mike

Foster hired him. I was just elected and came into the legislature and I was wondering why did they hire this guy? I mean twenty-four years old; they probably couldn't find anybody else to take the job when they looked at how bad the situation was. Well little did I know how bright, intelligent, forward thinking and the leadership that this young twenty-four year old man had. We had a deficit of almost a half billion dollars and a budget that was twelve billion dollars in the Department of Health and Hospitals. After two years, that had turned around from no longer a deficit but a two hundred million dollar surplus that he had gained in a two year period from going in and doing business the right way. He has provided something that I think is invaluable in the office of Governor in our state and that is integrity. I can tell you a lot about his educational accomplishments; he could have gone on and prepared to go on to medical school. He was at Brown University, he was a Rhodes Scholar. He served in Congress for two terms before running a second time successfully for Governor. But what I can say most about Governor Jindal is that I call him Bobby because he is a friend. He has been a friend of mine for the last fifteen years and one thing I can count on is I never have to worry about Governor Jindal in any way, form or fashion embarrassing me or this state. In fact, I trust his leadership totally and I am so proud to be from the state of Louisiana and when I see what he is fighting for to give parents and children choices in education, taking on the Department of Justice, and working difficult issues through a legislature that is still very populous in its orientation. The educational lobby is strong in this state but he has pushed forward major reforms in the area of education and I can only say great things about my friend Bobby Jindal and again proud to be from the state of Louisiana. He and Supriya have been dear friends of our family, he is a father of three and he is serious. The only thing more important to him than serving as an honorable Governor of

Louisiana is being a father to his three children and a husband to his wife. Please help me welcome Governor Bobby Jindal.

Thank ya'll very much. Thank you. Thank you all very very much. Thank you very much for that very warm reception. Thank you. Thank you very much for having me here tonight. Tony, thank you for that very generous introduction. Thank you for your friendship and thank you for your leadership. I can say so many great things about Tony and his beautiful wife. I will tell you this, he was one of the very first elected officials I met in Louisiana and you know politicians are a funny breed, I don't care what state you are from. There is one and I won't name him by name, Tony knows this guy well, for example in one of my elections endorsed and worked hard for my opponent. Gone to the papers and criticized me and did everything he could to help elect my opponent. When his candidate lost, he came to me and said, "Bobby, I was secretly for you from the very first day." I said, "I'm new to politics, I don't understand that, but next time I want you to be publically for me and be secretly for whoever you want. Just be secretly for the other guy." And I won't go into all the details but I remember the very first time I met Tony. We had to make some tough decisions to balance that budget. But what I respect so much is what he tells you in private is what he tells you in public. He is a man of integrity. He is a man that stands up to public pressure to do what is right. He is a fantastic leader for our state, for our country and for your organization. Let's give your Vice President a great round of applause.

I am honored to be here with you tonight. My wife and I are actually celebrating our 16th wedding anniversary tonight. Well, thank you. I like to tell people she was my high school sweetheart which is only half true. We met in high school, I liked her and I asked her out, it took me a about a year to work up the courage to ask her out and she turned me down in high school.

I won't tell you the whole story but I didn't see her again for ten years and then we dated and we got married. I tell people though she was the very first girl I liked. I tell you that to apologize in advance because a little bit later this evening I will be slipping out because I did promise her. I told Tony tonight that if I brought her here tonight I don't think I can count this as date night with three hundred and fifty of our best friends. Now Tony did talk about family and that is so important and I'll tell you before I get to my remarks we are blessed to be parents of three great kids, an eleven year old girl, nine year old boy and seven year old boy. And I just want to tell you a couple of things about them because I think most parents and grandparents can relate to this. I think this is so much more important than politics it is really setting that example for your kids at home and I thought we were doing pretty well. My little girl came home a few weeks ago from her church youth group and she was arguing with my wife and my wife is a lot smarter than I am. Supriya said to me, "Now look, your daughter is being difficult." By the way, when she says your daughter you know it is a bad thing. It is never my daughter when she gets an A in school or she does something good. It is my daughter when something is going wrong. She goes your daughter is being difficult. She said, "Please let her go to bed, just leave her alone." I said, "No. I heard her talking back to you and I want to find out." She said, "Please. I know you and I know this is going to become a debate just leave her alone." I go in there and my little girl is pretty upset. She has just come back from her youth group and she looks at me and I say, "Sweetheart what's the matter? Why are you talking back to mommy?" She said, "Daddy, I want to change my religion." I said, "Really?" It is late at night and she needs to get in bed but I decide we are going to talk about the bible and about Jesus I'm ready to have a theological debate with her. She looks at me very seriously the way an eleven year old girl thinks and everything and says, "Daddy, I can become Jewish or Presbyterian and you can pick which

everyone you want.” I’m a little confused by this and I said, “Sweetheart, why?” And she said, “Daddy, last week I went with my best friend and went to her Presbyterian church and they had youth group and they had a taco truck and a snow ball truck at their youth group and at our youth all they had was pizza and it was boring.” And she said, “My Jewish friend, they get to take trips.” And so I am sitting there debating with her and my wife said, “Would you please just let her go to sleep. This is not a serious debate.” Well the next morning she wakes up and sure enough she has decided she is happy to be Christian and she is not going to change her religion. But my wife was smart enough to realize that I didn’t need to have that debate. But you know there are debates that we need to have. There are debates we can skip and there are debates that we have to have. And right now in DC there are a lot of media types that are telling us you conservatives need to sit down and be quiet. You don’t need to have this debate. Look at the headlines from the last six weeks or last few months. There has been all this hysteria about look at the debt ceiling prices. Look at the spending resolutions. Look at conservatives that are trying to shut down the government. And what you hear across the entire main stream media is aren’t you guys smart enough to realize you lost an election? You guys need to modernize and you need to change your thinking if you want to win the next election. Let’s be honest about what they really mean. What they mean is they want us to become the second liberal party in the United States. Well, I’m here to tell you that America doesn’t need two liberal parties; we need to be a proud conservative movement willing to stand for our principles. And here is my concern about the debate in Washington DC. They’ve got it exactly wrong. The debate wasn’t about the debt ceiling it was about the debt. It is almost like we need a child to point out that the emperor is not wearing any clothes anymore. We were in this exact same place two years ago. We were told now is not the time for this debate. We were told to sit down and be quiet, be patient and

wait. You know in Louisiana we learned some things during the oil spill. During the oil spill we were promised all kinds of help, and I was talking to one of our parish presidents, that is what we call them down here, we don't call them county executives we have parish presidents. During the oil spill he said, "Bobby I have learned something." He said, "When the Federal Government, when the folks tell you that help is coming tomorrow, I learned what that means." He said, "That doesn't mean that help is coming tomorrow all that means is that help is not coming today." That is all that means when they tell you help is coming tomorrow. So when they tell you now is not the time to have this debate we will debate it tomorrow they just mean that they don't want to debate it today. You know the real challenge facing our country is not the short term challenge and it is not going to be three months from now with the same deadlines all over again and keep kicking the can down the road. The real crisis is that we have debt that is nearing seventeen trillion dollars. Larger than our economy and the President is yet to present one budget that ever balances. Not in the short term, not in the medium term and not in the long term. This President has yet to present a serious plan to balance or change our entitlement programs. This president has yet to present a serious plan to grow our economy. We have a new normal in this country and that is what worries me the most. We are beginning to accept economic growth of about two percent and rejoicing that we are no longer in a recession. We are beginning to accept a diminished international world role and role standing for the United States of America. We are beginning to accept the decay of our culture as the new normal. That is not the best that America can be. We know in our heart of hearts that America is forever a young country, an aspirational country where our best days are ahead of us not behind us. You know it strikes me that we are missing the real debate in DC. We've got some great Congressman right here in Louisiana and you will hear from some of them and you will hear

from some of them again in the near future. We have got some great national leaders in congress but here is the honest truth. Until we make structural changes nothing is going to change. Now what do I mean by that? I mean a balanced budget amendment in the constitution. I'm saying an amendment to the constitution that says it should take a super majority vote before they can raise our taxes, an amendment in the constitution that doesn't allow them to grow government spending faster than economic and population growth without a super majority vote, a term limit for our congressmen and by the way, let's make them part time legislatures the way the founding fathers intended. I think if they had to live under that same rules that we lived under maybe our laws would be a little different coming out of Washington DC. I actually have a different idea of how we should pay our congressman. Not everyone is going to like this. But I remind you that there was a day we used to pay farmers not to grow crops. Well, I think we should go to a per diem system where we pay them for everyday they promise to stay out of Washington DC. We will pay them every day they are not in DC. Mark Twain said, "Your wallet was safest when legislature was out of town." When you say things like this to people in DC they say you are not being serious. That will never happen. Well the reality is we have every one of them except we don't pay our legislatures not to show up in Baton Rouge, but we do everything else I just said in Louisiana's constitution. It works at the State level and it needs to work in DC. My little girl brought home a button one day from school. She goes to public school and she was wearing a button that said please don't anybody tell the president what comes after a trillion. But our children and grandchildren are going to the ones that are going to pay this debt that is being accumulated in their name. And it seems to me that our biggest failure in DC as conservatives is our leaders. And I don't care who we want to blame for this is we have not done a good job in defining this debate. The left has defined us as saying we want less for America. Now the

reality is that if you equate government with America then yes we are guilty as charged. We want less government for America but the Democratic Party is the party of less. They are the party of less jobs, less income, less growth, less opportunity and less freedom. The Republican Party needs to be the party of more. Not more government, not more spending, not more borrowing, not more taxes but rather more growth in the private sector, more spending, more private sector income, more freedom, more liberty. We need to be the party of limited government. And that is what this debate is really about. You know I wrote down and this is the one thing I'm going to read to you tonight, I wrote down what I think the left is really about. And I'm going to say this pretty quickly, I apologize, but if you had to sum up the left in one paragraph or one sentiment or one sentence or one statement this would be the one to summarize them. They want the government to pay everyone, to hire everyone, to get everyone on food stamps. They believe in centralized factory style government as a cool new thing. They believe debts don't have to be repaid, people of faith are ignorant and uneducated, unborn babies don't matter, pornography is fine, traditional marriage is discriminatory, thirty-two ounce sodas are evil and meat is dangerous. Rich people are evil unless they are from Hollywood or are liberal democrats, the Israelis are unreasonable, trans fats must be stopped, kids trapped in failing schools should be patient, wild weather is a new thing, and moral standards are passé. Government run healthcare is high quality, the IRS should violate our constitutional rights, reporters should be spot one, Bengasi was handled well, the second amendment is outdated and the first one has problems too. Now I'm trying to put that on a bumper sticker I just can't quite get it all to fit. But if you think about it that is the left's agenda. And shame on us for not providing that contrast and for not having that fight and not having the courage of our convictions. I'm here to tell you as dysfunctional as things may be in Washington DC,

conservative principles are alive and well and they are being applied in State capitols all over this country.

I'm proud to welcome you all to Louisiana. I want to share with you a few things we are doing here. I know many of you had the chance to visit the World War II museum last night and by the way, what a great place to honor truly America's greatest generation. I tell folks our real heroes are the ones that run towards danger and not the ones that run away from it. Not those folks that are famous for being famous. And what a great tribute the World War II museum is. But here in Louisiana we have done many things. You know when I started, my first year in office, I made a commitment to our people that we were going to make Louisiana the best place to raise a family, to create good paying jobs, to start a business. It started with a special session on ethics. A majority, when you looked at businesses the number one thing they said they could do to attract or create jobs is to crack down on corruption. Tony said it so well. Who you know is more important than what you know in big business and Louisiana said enough is enough. Billy Tozan famously said, "Half of the State was underwater and the other half is under indictment at any given moment in time." We set about changing that and we went from the bottom five to the top five in terms of our ethics laws, one of the strongest ethics laws in the country but then we came back in a special session got rid of taxes on debt and new equipment and utilities, taxes none of our neighboring states had. Why in the world would you want to discourage people from investing in your state? I made a commitment to our people, I said as long as I am Governor we are not raising any taxes in the state of Louisiana. It is pretty simple to me. If you want to encourage an activity don't tax it. If you want to discourage an activity tax it. Why in the world do you want to discourage people from investing in your state and in your economy?

We also enacted the largest income tax cut in our states history later that year. But we did other things as well. We reinvented our work force training program, the number one program in the entire country now. We have cut government spending. Our government budget, our state government budget is twenty-six percent smaller than when I took office. We have twenty-six thousand fewer state employees. That means we have fewer state employees than we have had in decades. That means our credit rating has gone up multiple times, its highest rating in decades. But here is the most important thing. We turned around our private sector economy. We are now a top ten State for private sector job creation. Our GDP has grown fifty percent faster than the national GDP since I have taken office. We are also a state that is the highest ranking we have ever had it. Every major national business climate we are now a state that announced over sixty billion dollars in new projects. Thirty-eight, forty, fifty thousand new jobs, we are actually a state that now for the first time in three decades, for the last five years in a row we have had more people move into Louisiana rather than leave our state than ever before. And that is so important because I believe that people are moving and voting with their feet. I think they are moving to states like Louisiana and Texas that have robust private sector economies. I think states like California, Illinois and Maryland that are raising their taxes, doubling down on failed liberal policies are losing their entrepreneurs, losing their people, losing their economic vitality. I also think it is important for a personal reason. I've told you I have those three great kids, my mom makes it very personal. She says, "Son, we love you." She called me today to congratulate us on our anniversary, she said, "Dad and I are proud of you." But she always tells me this and it always worries me just a little. She goes you just remember this; if we could have had those grandchildren first, she said well you just may not be here today. That is mom's nice way of saying I don't want to see my grandkids leave this state. I want to be able to watch them

play football. I want to be able to go to their school plays. I want to be able to be a part of them growing up and that is what I promised the people of Louisiana. We have to make a break with our past. We've made big changes in the area of healthcare for example. We took nine hundred thousand people in Louisiana's Medicaid program and put them in private healthcare plans, saving tax payers over a hundred million dollars and improving healthcare outcomes. By the way, not only do we say no to the Obama care exchanges we said no to the Medicaid expansion, saying that it makes no sense to put more people on welfare. Oh they tried, they tried resolutions, they tried attaching to legislation and they tried putting in instruments that I couldn't veto. Not just the democratic legislatures but even a few of the republicans in our state. Not all of them and not most of them but even a few of them. Here is one the things that no one ever talks about in that program. In Louisiana for every uninsured person they would have signed up they would have kicked more than one person out of private insurance to put them into Medicaid. If we had done that, forty-one percent of our people would have been on Medicaid. How in the world does it make sense to take more people away from pulling the cart and putting more people in the cart? That just isn't sustainable. That is one of the things that worries me greatly about this administration, their legacy and what they are doing to our country and what they are doing to our entitlement programs.

Maybe one of the biggest things we have done with healthcare, you know our state is unique and whenever you say Louisiana is unique you sometimes cringe when you say that. Sometimes that is a good thing. You know we are unique we have got thing like the duck dynasty and we are unique in that we will eat anything. I tell you my little boy; my seven year old boy broke his arm a couple of weeks ago at karate. He can still play football and other things but he has to be

careful he's got it in a cast. He actually had a chance, he met Willie Robertson last Saturday and he got him to sign his cast. He won't let anybody else sign his cast. He won't let me sign his cast; he won't let anyone sign his cast. I said, "Slade, the cast comes off Monday we could probably put that on EBay and make some money." That cast isn't going anywhere. That cast is going in his closet. But Louisiana was unique with our charity hospital system and even before we were a state, catholic daughters and sisters right here in New Orleans set up the first charity hospital hundreds of years ago. Huey Long then took that concept and turned it into a state run enterprise. Today when I was sworn in as governor we had ten state operated charity hospitals, the only state in the country that does that. And there was a time when that was actually a good way to deliver healthcare. Like so many things that government has done it is outdated and outdone, a one size fits all top down run healthcare system. We decided to change that. So we have taken nine of those hospitals and said we are going to privatize and/or close nine of those ten hospitals. We have already done eight. As a result we have eliminated ten thousand state jobs and saved over a hundred and forty million dollars. But here is the amazing thing.

Healthcare outcomes have gotten better across the board. In New Orleans for example, we are partnering with Children's Hospital here in greater New Orleans to build a two billion dollar complex partnering with LSU, Tulane and the private sector. In Lafayette they will have their first ever level two trauma center. In Baton Rouge their first ever level one trauma center. In Baton Rouge you used to have to wait ten days for a prescription, today it is ten minutes. Over in Lafayette before you had to wait six months if you had cancer to see a specialist, now they will see you right away. Over in Houma and in Chabert, if you wanted to see a specialist you had to travel over an hour to New Orleans. In Lake Charles they would send you three hours North to Shreveport. Today they will see you in their locale communities. They are saving

dollars and they are providing better healthcare. What it shows Washington DC is if you trust local communities, if you empower people to choose how they want to receive their healthcare you can save money. You can deliver better healthcare. You don't need the government bureaucrats in the waiting room. Healthcare really isn't that complicated. It really comes down to one simple question. Who do you trust to provide your healthcare? Do you trust the doctor, the nurse; the one who actually has the training? Or do you want a government bureaucrat making that decision for you? That is all you need to decide. That is all you need to know when it comes to the debate about Obama care, Medicare reform, Medicaid reform and all these other healthcare programs.

You know one of the most exciting things we have done here in Louisiana is education reform. I want to talk to you just a minute about this because I think this is such an important issue for conservatives, such an important issue for our country. If you are in your fifties growing up America ranked number one in education. If you are in your twenties we rank roughly sixteenth. That doesn't sound like an American rallying cry, we are number sixteen. By the way, if we are serious about being a super power, if we are serious about maintaining our quality of life, if we are serious about economic growth and lowering our incarceration rates and boosting healthcare outcomes it all comes back to education. But I would argue that separate from the practical imperative there is a moral imperative why we should care about education. I really think it comes down to two different views of America. You see our President, he believes in a redistributionist perspective. He believes you should create class envy and divide the American people. You look at his election and you try to divide the young from the old, men from women, you try to divide us geographically, you try to divide us culturally, you try to divide us any which

way he could. And as an aside I should have said when I welcomed you to the state of Louisiana we are proudly clinging to both our guns and religion in this great state. We were doing so before but knowing it annoys the president gives us one more reason to want to cling to both. But the President has a very different vision of the American dream than the one I learned about growing up in my parents' house. The American dream they taught me about wasn't about envy, wasn't about class warfare, it wasn't about redistribution; the American dream they taught us growing up was all about the equality of opportunity not outcomes. The American dream they taught us about was that you don't have to be born in the right zip code or the right family, the right gender, the right race or the right last name to succeed in this country. The American dream they taught us about was all about that the circumstances of a child's birth don't determine his outcome as an adult. And that is what is so great about the American dream.

My dad is one of nine, the first and only one that got passed the fifth grade. Every one of you probably has a story like that in your family. Maybe it was you, maybe it was your dad, and maybe it was your mom or your grandparents. My dad literally grew up in a house without electricity and without running water. I know because we heard these stories every single day growing up. Anytime you complained about anything he would remind you he had to walk uphill to get school and to get home from school too. They were too poor to afford downhill. But here is the amazing thing; they came to this country over forty years ago so my mom could go to LSU. My dad didn't know anybody but he came with a pregnant wife and he had the confidence that if you worked hard enough in this country you could get ahead. He went through the yellow pages and called company after company until somebody would hire him. When a railroad company would finally offer him a job, and I love this his audacity, my dad's

confidence, My dad has an accent, I don't mean a southern accent he has got an accent and when the guy finally agrees to hire him sight unseen my dad says that's great. I don't have a car; I don't have a driver's license you are going to have to come pick me up on the way to work Monday morning. His new boss was so taken by his confidence that he came and got him. My dad worked there for years. My dad was working there six months later when I was born and here is the thing about my birth, I was what you might call a preexisting condition. That sounds awful I know but I have been called worse. What that means is that their insurance didn't cover me but it was such a simpler time back then. You know two of my children were born at the same hospital where I was born. Our third child, our youngest was born at home but that is a whole other story for another day. All I need to tell you about that and the honest truth is if they let men have babies, if God had let men have babies, there would be no more babies ever born. I don't care how tough you guys think you are. You know everyone came up congratulating me after that ordeal. We didn't plan that that just happened at home. Everyone came up to me and said oh you did a great job. All I did was catch the baby my wife did all that work. The reason we are married sixteen years is because I realize that, by the way. But anyways when I was born I was what you called a preexisting condition meaning that insurance didn't cover the cost of my birth. So what did my dad do? He didn't go to the Government. He didn't even fill out any paperwork, when my kids were born we had to spend hours filling out paperwork my dad just shook hands with the doctor and promised to pay him every month until he paid that bill in full. It was a simpler time that is how people did things back then. I don't know if that would work today. I said, "Dad, how do you pay for a baby on an installment plan? I mean when you skip a payment can they take the baby back? What do they do?" He said, "You were such a bad kid we would have sent you back if that was an option." He said, "Don't worry we paid for you in

full.” But the reason I tell you that because when we were growing up my dad would always tell us, he would say, “Sons, I’m not leaving you a famous last name but I am going to make sure you get a great education. If you work hard and get a great education there is no limit to what you can accomplish in this great country.” And he was exactly right. And that is why in Louisiana we are fighting hard to give every child a great education. It starts by putting a great teacher in every classroom. Every study shows that. Look at how we hire fire, pay, encourage and award our teachers. Most of our policies are based on how long they have been breathing not how well they are actually doing in the classroom. We have got to change that in Louisiana. We have gotten rid of tenure as it was known before. Changed our hiring and firing and compensation policies but here is the second thing we have done. And this is so important. We said we are going to let the dollars follow the child instead of forcing the child to follow the dollars. Now what does that mean? That means in New Orleans, right here, ninety percent of our kids are in charter schools, the highest percentage of any in America. In five years we have doubled the percentage of kids doing reading and math at grade level. But it is not just charter schools. We said every child learns differently. Some kids will do better if they are homeschooled. Some kids will do better in a parochial school, a private school or a Christian school or an independent school. Some kids will be better in a traditional public school or charter school, parents know best. So let the dollars follow the child. For example, we do a course choice program. You can start the day in a public school and go to an online course or dual enrollment course or privately provided course for part or the rest of the day. We have also said we were going to fund a scholarship program and tax deductions and credits so that if you want to send your child to a parochial or a private or other school the dollars follow the child. This is what the unions had to say about that they said, “Parents don’t have a clue when it comes

to making choices for their children.” To me that summarizes the debate better than anything I could have said to you. I had a bunch of moms at my house the next day they said, “Governor, we make choices for our kids every day. We know the needs of our kids better than those bureaucrats sitting in Baton Rouge or Washington DC. And they are exactly right. But this is what that debate is all about.

That brings me to where we are today. And I cannot believe and I have been fairly critical of this administration. I have made no secret to the fact I was hoping he wouldn't win the first time much less be a two term President. Like many of you we did everything we could to stop that from happening. But even I wasn't prepared for the department of justice to come in with a federal lawsuit to try to stop poor kids in Louisiana from going to better schools. You see we started this program in New Orleans my first year in the government. Grew it to two thousand kids went statewide last year. Last year we had five thousand kids this year we have about seven thousand kids in this program and it keeps growing and growing and growing. We spend about sixty percent of what we would otherwise spend in public schools. Ninety-three percent of the parents are happy; the mom's come and tell you. It is the first time my child has brought homework home. It is the first time my child is wearing a uniform at school. It is the first time I am not worried about my child being safe at school. They are actually at a school with discipline. Who could be against this program? I'll tell you, Eric Holder. The same attorney general who thought it was okay to give guns to drug cartels but wants to keep them from law abiding citizens. That is who, the same attorney general. I went to the National Press Club and said, and I will repeat for you, I said, “I think this action by this administration is immoral, is cynical, and is hypocritical.” Why did I say that? I think it is immoral because these kids only

get one chance to get a great education. I have invited the president and the attorney general to come and look at them in the face, look those parents in the face and tell them why their kids don't deserve a great education. Why their kids should be trapped in a cycle of poverty. The second reason I said it was hypocritical. The reason I say it was hypocritical because there is no way the president or the attorney general would send their children to these failing schools. And finally I think it is cynical that they are using the same lawsuits, the same courts the same laws designed to protect our most vulnerable are our most minority kids to trap them in failing schools where half the kids aren't even on grade level. I think this in an important fight. It is an important fight for our state and an important fight for our country. I said this at the press club as well, they asked me if I would be open to any kind of accommodation or compromise and I said absolutely. I would be open to the attorney general apologizing and dropping this lawsuit and declaring that children in Louisiana and America have the right to go and seek a better education. Their parents have the right to make those decisions for their children. Anything short of that and we will take them all the way up to the United States Supreme Court if that is what we have to do. We took them up to the state supreme court, we have taken it through union recall elections and we will do whatever we have to to fight for liberty and freedom for our kids in Louisiana.

As I begin to close I do want to note just two final things. One I want to mention to you that we started an organization called America next. I want to tell you why we've done this. I think for too long as conservatives we have done a great job saying what we are opposed to, what we don't like I think we need to be providing conservative policy solutions and saying what we are for. Yes let's repeal Obama care but let's replace Obama care. This isn't one of those pacts or

super pacts; this isn't about political ads it isn't about anything like that. This is about real conservative policies and having the courage of our convictions showing them our conservative policies on education, on healthcare, on the tax code, on energy, on growing the private sector in our economy. We are applying them in Louisiana and we are showing you nationally what can be done through this organization. So I recommend it to you and your attention.

I want to close on this observation. We right now have a President of the United States in President Obama and I have asked this question and it is as serious question. I honestly don't know if he is the most liberal or the most incompetent President in modern times. Well to quote Hillary Clinton when she was talking about Bengasi, "What difference does it make if he is the most liberal or the most incompetent." But we have a President of the United States that doesn't trust the American people I want you to think about that. You know when we had all these different scandals in Bengasi we had to spying on the AP reporters, we had fast and furious, we had the IRS scandal the administration tried to pretend like these were all just individual unrelated episodes. David Axelrod actually said something I agreed with. He came out and said the federal government is so vast the president couldn't possibly know what was going on. You know he is actually right this federal government is too vast and is too expansive. Now there are a lot of people, it is very fashionable now a days to say that conservative thought isn't modern, isn't applicable, isn't relevant anymore that we just need to change what we believe in. I think that is completely wrong. I think this president is misreading the American people. I think there is a rebellion brewing in these United States of America. I think the American people are waking up and understanding what the founding fathers intrinsically understood. We are blessed to live in the greatest country in the history of the world but every generation has to choose for

itself to renew those principles of limited government of individual liberty and freedom. And I think what you are seeing is people standing up, whether it is for their second amendment rights or the right to buy a big gulp, whether it is the right to send their kids schools of their choice, whether it is the right to keep more of their hard earned money or make their own medical decision there is a rebellion brewing in the United States of America it is starting in our state capitol it will go to Washington DC. I want to tell you that here in Louisiana we believe in freedom, we believe in conservative principles and I want to thank you for standing up for the American dream and to make sure we are not the first generation that mortgages our children's futures and leaves them fewer opportunities than we inherited from our parents but instead like my father and your parents before you that we leave our kids a chance to pursue the American dream. God bless you all and enjoy the rest of you time in New Orleans, Louisiana. Thank you all very much.