

From: "Drouin, Lindsey E."
To: "Kavanaugh, Brett M."
Subject: RGA compare
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[RGA-27February2006#7compare#6.doc](#)

Here is the compare.

Remarks at Republican Governors Association Reception
Monday, February 27, 2006
Draft #7

- Thank you, Governor, for that warm introduction. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b(6)
[REDACTED] As a proud former member of the RGA, I am
honored to welcome all of you to our Nation's capital.

Acknowledgments

- [TK]
- The Republican Party has a hopeful and optimistic vision for every American. Our party is driving the debate on the key domestic and foreign policy issues of our time.
- Our Nation's Republican governors are providing leadership that is crucial to the success of our agenda for the American people. Across the country, Republican governors have turned deficits into surpluses ... made state governments more efficient ... and provided tax relief to their citizens. Our party can be proud of this record of achievement.
- We are making great progress – yet more work lies ahead. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b(6)
[REDACTED]

War on Terror

- Stay on the offense – fight them there so do not have to fight at home
- Harbor a terrorist – equally guilty as a terrorist (Afghanistan)
- Confront threats before they fully materialize (Saddam)
- Spread freedom as hopeful alternative to terrorist ideology – Middle East and beyond
- Iraq – strategy for victory: political, economic, security
- Defend homeland – terrorist surveillance program

Economy is Strong

- Economy grew 3.5 percent last year
- Unemployment 4.7%, more than 4.7 million new jobs since Aug. 2003
- Homeownership and minority homeownership at record levels

Agenda to Keep Economy Moving

- Keep economy growing – make tax relief permanent
- Spending restraint – tight budget ... again cuts non-security discretionary spending ... on track to cut the budget deficit in half by 2009
 - Need to reduce growth of entitlement spending – need to slow the car down to the speed limit, do not need to put in reverse
- Health care – responsibility to poor and elderly (Medicare, Medicaid, Community Health Centers)
 - For everyone else: More affordable and available – philosophical debate – government or consumer control ... HSAs ... Association Health Plans ... medical liability reform ... transparency
- Advanced Energy Initiative – use technology to reduce dependence on foreign sources of energy:
 - Cars – hybrid, hydrogen, ethanol
 - Homes and offices – nuclear, clean coal, solar, wind
- American Competitiveness Initiative – double federal funding for basic research in the physical sciences ... make R&D tax credit permanent ... improve math and science education and job training
- Education – No Child Left Behind ... extend to high schools
- Legal reform – protect honest job creators from junk lawsuits
- Open up markets abroad – free and fair trade

Values/Culture of Life

- Marriage, partial-birth abortion
- Good judges like Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Sam Alito
- Faith-based initiative – I thank the 20 Republican Governors who now have faith-based offices
- I look forward to working with all of you as we take our vision for a better America to every corner of this great land.

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