Democratic Response to the Presidential Radio Address

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Senator * or Department*: BAUCUS

Instructions:
Prepare one form for insertion at the beginning of each record series.
Prepare and insert additional forms at points that you want to index.
For example: at the beginning of a new folder, briefing book, topic, project, or date sequence.

Record Type*: Speeches & Remarks

MONTH/YEAR of Records*: January-1983
(Example: JANUARY-2003)

(1) Subject*: Federal Issues
(select subject from controlled vocabulary, if your office has one)

(2) Subject* Democratic Response to the Presidential Radio Address

DOCUMENT DATE*: 01/22/1983
(Example: 01/12/1966)

* "required information"
I'm Senator Max Baucus, a Democrat from Montana. Listening to President Reagan, I can't help thinking that he is a kind and decent man.

He has the hardest job in the world and we Americans want him to do well. However, I keep asking myself: Does he see the picture clearly?

In three days, the President will address the nation, about the state of the union.

He is tempted, I know, to stay the course. To convince himself the program is working. I wish it were. But it is not.

The President must not become a political prisoner of his own policies.

He can take another road. He can accept the truth.

He can change the course. If he does, he will earn my admiration and the nation's respect.

So far, the President blames the past for the present. There is some truth in this. There have been mistakes over the past 20 years.

But that's not the issue.

The real question is this: Where do we go from here?

How do we help those 700 hard-rock miners in Butte, Montana, who were told last week that they are joining 12 million other (more)
That is not fair.

The President should tell the Federal Reserve to loosen the money supply and play its part in getting interest rates down.

As we move in the short term, we should look to the future, as well. That's my second point.

I urge the President to abandon his hard-line opposition to a jobs program. Economics is not religion. People are out of work.

We should invest in American ingenuity. As we invest in machines, we should invest in people, in ideas, in our future. We should tap every ounce of creativity.

Today, there are a million unfilled jobs, requiring special skills. Business and government should work together, to train our people to fill those jobs.

We must make a massive investment in our young people.

We must renew our commitment to education. Our kids need to speak foreign languages to sell products abroad, and learn the sciences to invent the products.

And we need a strong commitment to research. America should be the world leader in new technologies, and new products.

We should provide greater incentives to innovative, smaller firms. And we should encourage joint research by American firms facing subsidized foreign competition.

This strategy -- training, education, and research -- can restore our sense of confidence, our vitality, our long-term prosperity.

This is one Senator's view of what our goals should be.

With courage and foresight, with honesty and wisdom, there is no goal beyond our reach.

If we look forward and work together, we can move toward a future that will make us prosperous and proud.

Like other generations, we can meet our challenge, solve our crisis, and make our nation grow again.

Thank you for listening.

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