

# Ron Paul Remarks on N.H. Primary Results

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PAUL: ... have awakened, and this is just going to be the beginning of something very, very big for this country.

(APPLAUSE)

You know, I knew we were making progress when I realized how many people found us on the Internet. That's been very exciting.

But, you know, the other thing that has been tremendously exciting for me -- you know, I've talked about several policies. The number-one policy, of course, is individual liberty and our Constitution.

(APPLAUSE)

But, you know, I've always had a deep concern about honest money. You know, the government is supposed to be there to protect honesty in money, not to destroy the money.

But I never thought I'd see the day where we would get loud cheers on the University of Southern California and the University of Michigan when I start talking about getting rid of the Federal Reserve system.

(APPLAUSE)

You've touched my heart. You've touched my heart. Great. But, you know, when I realized we were making progress, not only on the campus, but it was sort of entertaining when the students at the University of Michigan started pulling out dollar bills and lighting them up, not that I advise you to do that. You know, there is a fire code around here, so be careful.

But I also know we are making progress on the money issue when we get people like Jay Leno asking me about, "What is this business about printing too much money?"

(APPLAUSE)

You know, they've told me for years that you should never talk about monetary policy because it's so complex. Yeah, really complex. You print a lot of money, and it loses its value. That's really complex.

(APPLAUSE)

But guess what? They're going to have to listen to us, and it's pretty obvious. It's on the news every single day. You know, the dollar is going down. The dollar is getting weaker. I wonder what's happening? What are we going to do? Oh, let's print some more money and bail out the banks.

(AUDIENCE BOOS)

You know, but it is becoming an issue. Today, gold hit record highs. They said the gold price is high. That is not it. The gold prices always stay the same. The value of gold is steady.

What happened is, you know, not too many years ago, probably about 100 years ago, the dollar was defined as 1/20th of an ounce of gold. Today, it's essentially 1/900th of an ounce of gold, and they wonder why the dollar is getting weak.

But anyway, this is an important issue for very -- a great deal of reasons. But the main reason why the gold standard and gold money is so important: It restrains the government from getting too involved in the economy and around the world and fighting wars.

(APPLAUSE)

Every country throughout all of history has abused the monetary system in order to finance wars that are unpopular. You know, old people declare the wars, and the young people have to fight them. That's why we don't need any more of those wars.

We need to get our troops home and get back to a sensible foreign policy.

(APPLAUSE)

You know, it really frightens me about what is happening. And, you know, a lot of times they will use sort of an incident to stir the people up, build up the war fever, get the people to accept this notion we have to go to war and we have to draft young people and all this.

But, you know, this week, we had a scary event. Monday morning, I believe it was, there was an announcement. There were a couple speedboats, you know, 30 foot long. And the American government said, "Oh, they're threatening us! We'd better do something about it," speedboats with submachine guns on it.

But, you know, this whole idea that there could be a precipitating event like that scares the living daylights out of me, because some in Congress, in Washington today want to spread this war. We want to end this war. We don't want the war to spread in the Middle East.

(APPLAUSE)

The other day, I was on Tim Russert's program, and he asked me one, two, three questions in a row. And one was a question about the CIA. And I was about half a sentence into it, and he wanted to go onto the next subject. And I said, "No, let me finish the sentence about the CIA."

I'll tell you, the country does need some intelligence-gathering, but what we need is a lot more intelligence in Washington interpreting the intelligence that we get.

(APPLAUSE)

And we don't need any more distortion of the CIA report. But we don't need a -- it's all right to collect intelligence, but we don't need a secretive CIA that wages war behind the scenes, picking and choosing dictators around the world, getting us into trouble, and we've been doing that for way too long.

(APPLAUSE)

You know, we're already involved in nation-building in two significant countries, which serves nothing more than to stir up more hatred toward us, so we are less free by being in those countries, meddling in their affairs.

And, also, it means that there's a much greater threat to our terrorism. And someday, we'll wake this country up and get everybody to understand. I believe the people are way ahead of the politicians and in Washington, that this threat of terrorism doesn't come because we're free and prosperous. It comes because we meddle when we shouldn't be meddling.

(APPLAUSE)

And this isn't new. It was started a long time ago. In 1953, our CIA participated in the overthrow of an elected leader in Iran and put in the shah. And we've suffered consequences and continue to. We're still involved there.

But what about what we're doing in Pakistan right now? We have our own CIA agents in there picking and choosing which dictator we're going to bombard with more American dollars. I say: Let them declare and decide who they want to run their countries.

We shouldn't be telling which dictator we're going to take more American taxpayers' money and finance them.

(APPLAUSE)

You know, and one thing with certainty. If the war spreads, they will want to -- they will need more men and women. That means it isn't an accident they keep the Selective Service on the board and that they have bills in the Congress.

Let us declare that we will not accept a military draft for any of their warmongering.

(APPLAUSE)

This is coming to an end. It should come to an end because we act wisely, and have proper government, and have the proper people in Washington, but it will end because we can't afford it.

Great empires, great nations succumb to the temptation to spread themselves too far. They are never conquered militarily, hardly ever at least. The Soviet Union came down, not with a military confrontation, but by an economic weakness, and that is what we're facing today.

That is what the weak dollar is telling us today, that we cannot finance this, but what we need to do is come up wisely and say, "Look, let's not wait for catastrophic economic events. Let's come home and save the money."

(APPLAUSE)

We spend nearly a trillion dollars a year with our foreign empire around the world, money we don't have. The only way we can finance it currently is we're financing it by borrowing from China. I think let us end the days -- let us end the days where we are dependent on China for our own financing. We don't need that.

(APPLAUSE)

But if we would do this wisely, actually, we could have a transition period where we can take care of those who are dependent on the programs that shouldn't have existed in the first place, but we don't need to put people out on the street.

But if we continue to do this, the people who are barely hanging on will be out in the streets, because our dollar is going down in value. And no matter how much you try to keep up with it, if you have lack of productivity and lack of prosperity, just creating new money just makes the problem that much worse.

Our seniors, the people who are in retirement now, their inflation rate is 10 percent or 12 percent, and they get boosts in Social Security by 2 percent. And then we wonder why they're complaining and having trouble making it.

The only way this can be solved is cutting huge sums back. And we can do this. Not only can we cut this, if we cut enough from this overseas spending, we get an additional benefit, because it would save so much money that we wouldn't even need an income tax at all.

(APPLAUSE)

Can we only dream about the day we don't have the income tax, or the Federal Reserve system, and we have peace and prosperity?

(APPLAUSE)

You know, the energy from the campaign has come from the young people, and those who have been frustrated, and who are young at heart, who still believe in liberty and believe in freedom. And this -- it has been said by some that I've removed your apathy, and I'm glad I'm able to do that.

But, believe me, people like you who campaign the way you have done has removed the skepticism that I had at the beginning of this campaign.

(APPLAUSE)

But we would always like to have done better in all the campaigns and all the elections, and we will continue to do better, and we will continue this fight. We're not giving up.

(APPLAUSE)

But we have to realize that not only hundreds or thousands, maybe hundreds of thousands of people now have heard this message. Some had heard it and forgotten about it. Some have dropped out. Some have never been involved, and the young people are rallying.

They hear about this, and they say, "This is exciting." And they've added it up, and they figure out that they're not going to get much out of the system that we have. And they understand that freedom really works.

(APPLAUSE)

Along with the freedom that we strive for, we accept the responsibility of freedom. We take care of ourselves. And we don't depend on the nanny state to take care of us, either.

(APPLAUSE)

But the magnificent thing that I have observed around the country when giving so many speeches and getting to the rallies is how freedom brings people together. It doesn't divide us; it brings us together.

It brings diversity together, but we don't want to tell people how they want to use their freedom. How they want to run their lives is their business, as long as they don't hurt anybody. It is your own life.

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