

News Release

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HARRY BROWNE
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Harry Browne: Bill Clinton's speech shows he 'believes in a place called Washington, DC'

Libertarian asks: "What happened to the era of smaller government?"

WASHINGTON, DC — Bill Clinton doesn't believe "in a place called Hope" — he believes in a place called Washington, DC, Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne said today.

"That's why Clinton advocated at least 16 new government programs or laws in his acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention last night," said Browne. "Bill Clinton's real hope is to get re-elected, so he can stay in Washington, DC and preside over four more years of government growth."

Despite his statement a few months ago that the "era of big government is over," Clinton advocated a college scholarship program; a "GI Bill" for job training; a National Service Corps childhood reading program; a federal school-building program; a welfare-recipient hiring "bonus" for companies; subsidies to cities to create public jobs; expansion of the Brady Bill; a new ban on bullets; more funding for the War on Drugs; laws against companies that "even try to pollute;" an expansion of the Family Leave Law; a federal flex-time law; laws against cigarette advertising; federally subsidized health insurance for the unemployed; a law regulating hospital stays for new mothers; and phone-tapping powers to "fight terrorism."

"Clinton's speech made it obvious: If you want bigger government, more bureaucratic meddling in your life, more government control of business, fewer civil liberties, and higher taxes, vote for him," said Browne.

The Libertarian candidate said he also rejects the central metaphor of Clinton's speech — the notion that government is needed to "build a bridge to the 21st century."

"No matter how many failures, no matter how many scandals, no matter how obvious the government's incompetence, Bill Clinton tells us that only the omnipotent, omniscient government can solve our problems," said Browne. "Clearly, Clinton is too enamored with the power of government to realize that government isn't a bridge — it's a dead-end."

Now that he's listened to both Bob Dole's and Bill Clinton's speeches, Browne said the choice in November should be clear for voters who want smaller government.

"Please, don't waste your vote on Dole or Clinton, whose entire careers have been devoted to making Big Government bigger," he said. "It's time to make your vote count — time to vote for someone who is determined to make government much smaller: Harry Browne."

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