

Greg's Speech at the 2000 Republic State Convention

My name is Greg Hawkins. I have criss-crossed this great state for 16 months. Two press conferences, a dozen press releases, several hours on the radio, 20 pages of brochures, a complete web site, and a 23 minute tape have laid bare why I am running and what I hope to do. Most Utahns, including state delegates, believe it is time for a change. Yet, those in power have told them to fear.

Orrin has been in office 24 years and is the chairman of the Judiciary committee. This is the nail on which the fear of losing Orrin has been hung. But the facts tell a different story.

You have been told that chairmanship is extremely important and takes years to obtain. The facts:

There are over 90 committees and major sub-committees in the Senate.
Most Republican Senators chair 2 or more committees.

- 5 chair 3 committees.
- 30 chair 2 committees.
- 17 chair 1 committee.

In the Senate, being a chairman is not the exception. It is the rule if you are a Republican.

But what if we lose Orrin as the head of the Judiciary? Again, the stark facts.

Clinton, the insidious, will have appointed nearly half of the life-time Federal judges before he is through, a "liberal, activist judiciary in his own image." Since 1994, all of these appointments have gone through the Chair of the Judiciary, Orrin Hatch, including two of the most activist liberal judges ever appointed, Richard Paez and Marsha Berzon.

The Wall Street Journal has noted that "Mr. Hatch and Pennsylvania Liberal Arlen Specter were the only two Republicans to vote for [Paez] on the Judiciary Committee." The Wall Street Journal concluded that Orrin Hatch is "just one more Clinton enabler" and that it is "no wonder Bill Clinton and friends think they can get away with anything. Republicans keep letting them." The Wall Street Journal is not alone. Numerous others have noted that Democrats defeated Republican nominations when they were in control but Republicans can't seem to defeat Clinton nominations.

The discrepancy between Orrin's public campaign as the watchdog of the Judiciary, and his actual record has caused even the Wall Street Journal to ask, "Will the real Orrin please stand up?" What are we to conclude?

My life and the last 16 months have illustrated my tenacity and commitment to principle.

Every Republican in the Senate has power, influence and committee leadership.

As head of the Judiciary Committee, Orrin Hatch, has not stopped Clinton, the most outrageous President we have ever had, even when 80% of his fellow Republicans, on Orrin's own committee, were against him.

Lastly, what if the unspeakable happens and Al Gore wins. With Orrin's record can we take the chance.

Don't be deceived. All incumbents and their establishment supporters claim that if you replace them you will be hurt. Examine the facts, examine the record, especially the voting record. When the record is examined in the light of day, Utah need not fear replacing him. It is time for a change. Today you have a solid, principle based Republican alternative.

Your presence here speaks volumes. Will you join me in saying no to politics as usual. And yes to a new birth of courageous citizenship in the greatest nation on earth.