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PENCE PRAISES ADMINISTRATION IN ADDRESS TO NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION
Conservative Congressman tells gathering “the ship is turning,” extols “course correction” by Bush Admin

Washington, Mar 8, 2004 - Washington, D.C.- This weekend, Congressman Mike Pence (R-IN) delivered the keynote address to the Council for National Policy convention in San Diego, California. More than 600 business leaders and conservative activists from across America attended the speech.

After leveling a critical speech at recent administration efforts in education and entitlements during a keynote speech to the CPAC convention in January, Pence took the occasion to praise the Bush Administration's renewed commitment to fiscal discipline and the social conservative agenda.

Using the analogy of a ship off course, Pence told the CNP audience:

“In newsprint, on talk radio and cable news, conservatives have spoken with integrity and courage to our leaders in Washington about the error of our present heading.

“And the ship is turning

”Since that day in January when I, and a great many others, spoke words of admonition to our President and the leaders in Congress, there is evidence that a course correction is underway.

”Just in the past six weeks, this President has asked Congress to ensure sustained economic growth by making his tax cuts permanent this President has called for restraints on federal spending and produced a budget that holds the growth of the discretionary federal government

to less than 1 percent.

"This President has (as Reagan did before him) made it clear that he would veto the upcoming highway bill if it raises taxes or busts the budget.

"And after weeks of confusion from Massachusetts to California, this President has brought moral clarity to the debate over same sex marriage by calling on Congress to pass a Constitutional Amendment to protect marriage.

"The President rightly called marriage, 'the most enduring human institution,' and so it is. Marriage was ordained by God, confirmed by law, is the glue of the American family and the safest harbor for children.

"Congress should heed the President's leadership in every respect: enact permanent tax relief and fiscally conservative budget, sustain his threatened veto of budget busting bills, and pass the Marriage Amendment to the Constitution of the United States with all deliberate speed.

"This, then, is our cause.

"To stand with our captain as he leads us well, to right the ship in that where she is adrift, and to support his every effort to set her right.

"And this cause will prevail."

For more information or to interview Congressman Pence, please contact Matt Lloyd at 202-225-3021.

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