

Talking Points
for
Vice President Al Gore
at
REGO TOWN HALL
HOUSTON, TX
Sept. 11, 1993

I. The President and I are here today for one simple reason. We know what we want the Federal Government to do -- and nobody's done it better than in Texas.

II. We have a government in Washington that:

- * writes ten page regs on how to make an ashtray
- * spent \$4 for every \$3 it takes in
- * hires 40,000 people to enforce a Personnel Code that weighs over 1000 pounds.

- * takes 49 months to order a computer.

III. Americans believe their government is not only broke but broken. And in many ways, they're right.

IV. That's why the President asked me to lead the six-month review of federal agencies called the National Performance Review. It's time to:

- * Cut red tape ... cut waste ... treat people like customers again ... eliminate duplication ... measure performance and hold workers accountable for results.

- * We need a government that works better and costs less.

IV. Houston and the state of Texas have done that.

- * You've reinvented government at the General Land Office by streamlining bureaucracy ... creating public-private partnerships and innovative community development.

- * Houston has reinvented government with targeted investments ... streamlined city services and the concept known as "Neighborhood Oriented Government."

- * The State of Texas has reinvented government with a host of methods John Sharp shared with us. In fact, the papers have reported that his effort was a model for us and they are absolutely right. It was.

V. There are those who say the federal government can't do what Texas and Houston has done -- that it's too big. I disagree.

- * After all, if our plans succeed the federal government will be under 2 million people. Texas is eight times that number. If Texas can do more with less why can't Washington?

VII. People in Texas work hard. Play by the rules. Try to support their families. ~~They raise their families.~~ They pay taxes. They do their job.

VIII. Now it's time for us in Washington to do our job. Create a government that will show respect for tax dollars and for the work it took to earn them. And to talk about how we'll do that, it's my great pleasure to introduce The President of the United States.