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# Reagan & Bush

Reagan Bush Committee

901 South Highland Street, Arlington, Virginia 22204 (703) 685-3400

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE UPON DELIVERY  
10:45 a.m. EDT, September 10, 1980

CONTACT:  
Lyn Nofziger or  
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EXCERPTS OF REMARKS BY GOVERNOR RONALD REAGAN  
CLINIC INN AT CARNEGIE, CLEVELAND, OHIO  
Wednesday, September 10, 1980

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You know, when you are the governor of a very large state, you deal with many problems and advocate much legislation that is important but that becomes lost in your memory because of the press of current business.

You have to go back and look at the record to see just what it is you may have done or been responsible for.

You won't be surprised, I'm sure, to know that I have to go back and look at the record in almost any specific area to see just what it was we accomplished when I was governor. The progress we made in dealing with minority issues is something I am particularly proud of. There was a time when I was reluctant to talk about these things because I didn't want it to seem as if I were boasting or taking undue credit. Then I learned some of you thought I didn't speak of them because I was ashamed. Now I talk about them because, as I said, I've always been proud of them.

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Let me tell you briefly some of the things we did in California during my eight years that have to do with minorities and Blacks in particular. It is an approach I would take as president.

More than anything else, I am proud of the number of Blacks who held high state office in my Administration. I appointed more Blacks to policy-making positions in state government than any other governor in the nation and more than all the previous governors of California combined.

We sought out able men and women for high level jobs and we found many of them in the Black community, but they were appointed because they were competent, not because they were Black.

These included men such as James Johnson, who headed the State Department of Veterans Affairs and who later became Vice Chairman of the United States Civil Service Commission and many others. (I have provided the press with a partial list.)

When I first became governor, I appointed a Black man as Deputy Director and later as Director of the State Fair Employment Practices Commission. And by executive order, I insured that the state would, and I quote, "...take any or all affirmative action necessary to assure equality of opportunity in the internal affairs of state government and its relations to the general public."

We established a color blind real estate industry, we



established a job creation program aimed largely at disadvantaged areas, we set up a state office of minority business enterprise. And in my office, I appointed an Assistant to the Governor -- a Black -- whose sole duty was to serve as a liaison between my office and the minority communities throughout the state. He was to report back to me as an ombudsman to relate the problems and concerns of these communities and then to recommend appropriate action. Nine field men and women around the state reported directly to him. As President, I would expand on this effort.

Along this line, we also restructured and broadened California's multi-service centers for the purpose of making the most effective use of the many services available to help the jobless and disadvantaged.

At the risk of sounding immodest, I will compare my record in California to that of any other state or the record of Jimmy Carter during the last three-and-a-half years.

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