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This is a New Hampshire Public Television Special Presentation. The New Hampshire Political Library and the New England Council present "Politics and Eggs," the 2007 Presidential Candidate Series with Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee. With support from BAE systems, Clean Harbors Environmental Services and Fidelity Investments.

Michael Chaney: Good morning. It is our pleasure to welcome you to the next installment of Politics and Eggs. This morning we are pleased to welcome Governor Mike Huckabee. Just before we get started, my name is Michael Chaney, President of the New Hampshire Political Library. I have word from the Secretary of State Bill Gardner, the Red Sox did win last night.

We always like to thank the sponsors of the Politics and Eggs series. Their banners are flying around you and their names are on the place setting card in front of you. We couldn't do this series without them. I always enjoy thanking our partner, the New England Council and Jim Brett, and Larry Zabar, with the partnership that brings all of the candidates here to New Hampshire. This event will be broadcast this evening at 8:00 p.m. and webcast at politicallibrary.org within a couple of days.

We are pleased to welcome the Former Governor of Arkansas who served from 1996 to 2007. He is a republican and activist for conservative causes. He has been recognized for his leadership. He is the past chair of the national governor's association. He spent a significant part of his adult life as a minister, pastor, serving and counseling firsthand those families in his parish that, as in any community, confront all of the joys and tragedies of living a life. He is concerned about school accountability and children's access to health care. He said recently that we need to get back to governing. We have become so polarized that we are politically paralyzed. Republicans aren't right all of the time and democrats aren't wrong all of the time and vice versa, and we need to get back to the business of running this country for the people who live here.

His own personal health journey is an inspiration to all of us who have dealt with a profound impact of an unhealthy life whether our own or family in community. Governor Huckabee filed for the New Hampshire primary yesterday. Those of you who saw the footage or who were there, and many of you were, we appreciate your support of the New Hampshire primary and your participation here as a presidential candidate. On a lighter note, the governor does change up his strengths from time to time, with his band Capitol Offense, and he has an engagement to get to earlier this morning. So, that is another way that you have brought a human element to your candidacy.

He has opened for the likes of Willie Nelson, the Charlie Daniels band. I know that senator Brownback is perhaps making an announcement today, and that is something that has an impact on your candidacy, but what senator Brownback gives, Stephen Colbert

takes away, having announced a run in the southern state for president. All best wishes to you and welcome to Politics and Eggs.

Mike Huckabee: Thank you very much, Michael. Thank you. I'm really disappointed in Stephen Colbert. I went on his show three times, and he gave me the Colbert bump, and that is probably one of the reasons we're surging in the polls in Iowa and surprised everybody out there taking a second place position. I think we're doing well here. I told him on national television that i would pick him to be my vice president when I got the nomination. Low and behold that wasn't enough. He had to announce that he is running for president.

Senator Brownback is apparently dropping out today, good man, believes many of the things that I do. I hope the other republicans drop out as well. It would be a lot better for me. Somebody said is it crowded up there? I said it wouldn't be if it was up to me. I did file the papers yesterday. What a thrill it was to sit at that wonderful antique desk and affix my name to a document to mean my being on the ballot in New Hampshire. It is a long way from where I grew up on second street in hope, Arkansas, for filing for president in New Hampshire. I sat there with deep emotions realizing what a long journey it indeed has been for me. First male in my family to graduate high school. No one upstream from me had ever done it. Came from a family that had parents that wanted me to do better than they did, and insisted that I get enough education to have a better life.

My dad worked two jobs. He was a fireman for the city of Hope, Arkansas. On his days off he worked as a mechanic. I tell people, this is a true story, the only soap we had in our house when i was a kid is lava, for those of you who don't understand what that means, i was in college before i realized it is not supposed to hurt when you take a shower. You see people going to spas and spend \$150 for an exfoliation. I tell them look, for 50 cents, get a bar of lava and it will do the same thing.

My dad never thought I would probably get this far. When I was eight years old he took me to meet the Governor of Arkansas. Governors never came down to where we were. He said the governor is coming down to dedicate a lake that has been built here in the Hope area. I want you to go there and hear his speech. You may live your whole life and you may never meet a governor in person. Little did he ever imagine that his son would come the 44th governor of the state and serve 10 and a half years and one day run for president. It is a reminder to me that this is a great country where a kid like me could actually run for president. It will be a greater country when I win.

Sometimes I am asked, what do you think about New Hampshire's first in the nation primary status? I am in New Hampshire, I love it. I think it is great. When I am not in New Hampshire, I still say it is a great idea. I'm certainly going to think it is the most brilliant idea of all, because New Hampshire has a great tradition of cutting through all of the national media fog and not necessarily just taking for granted what somebody in Washington or New York happens to say. And really vetting candidates based on where they stand on issues, what they're about, who they are, where they come from, not just on

how much money they can spend to persuade people. In New Hampshire, it is more about the cereal than the box. That is a good thing not just for New Hampshire, but America.

The primary date, we don't know when it is going to be. We watch to see if Bill Gardner picks up the newspaper at a different time in the morning and people follow him around just to see -- it appears that now the primary may actually be on Halloween night, and the new strategy is all of the candidates will be invited to trick or treat throughout New Hampshire, and whoever has the most candy will win the nomination. It makes it simple. We will be done with it. That will be the end of that.

There is a concern I have, if you watched the news this morning you saw some of the speeches from the floors of congress. In fairness, sometimes republicans have been just as guilty of launching incredibly harsh volleys of rhetoric against a democratic president or each other. I don't think anybody in America watches that and says I am so proud to see our government in action. I don't know if I have met any person, democrat or republican, who can watch the level that comes out of that nation's capitol and say that represents me. That is what I think. That's how I feel. Even when we're at our most angry moment at what government is doing, we don't want it to get to the place where we believe that drawing the personal blood of the other side is what it is all about.

Government has become dysfunctional because they're not focusing on the problems that -- what people talk about in the halls of power in Washington D.C. is different than what people talk about when they gather at their dinner tables at home all over America. Everything is left or right, liberal, conservative, democrat, republican, the reality is for most Americans, politics is not horizontal. It is vertical. People want to know, if we elect you, will you take us up or will you bring us down? They want to know, can we really deal with the problems that we face?

This trade deficit with china, borders that are so open that today it is more difficult for you to get on an airplane in your own home town than it is for an illegal to cross a border of an international barrier. You have to have more paperwork to get on an airplane in Manchester than somebody from another country will to slip across the border and become a part of our economy. We don't know who they are, where they come from. It is not that we resent immigrants when they come here. Most of us will say thank god we're in a country people want to break into, not break out of. That's good. Everybody ought to have to come legally and in an orderly way and with some level of process. We are rightfully angry at a government that has allowed this to get totally out of control. We're frustrated that we have a tax system that has a more onerous tax burden on manufacturers than France does. The most challenging tax environment in the world. There is a reason that \$10 trillion of U.S. capital is parked offshore and not in our working economy. What on earth might happen to this nation's future if the \$10 trillion of American money that is somewhere else came home and became working capital? What would happen if the \$250 to \$500 billion a year in compliance with an impossible to understand tax code could be turned loose into the economy of research, development, marketing, employee benefits, product development? And it could happen, but not under the current tax code.

What would happen in this country if we really finally did say after 35 years of piddling around that we are going to be energy independent within a decade, and we will be able to tell the Saudi's that within a decade, we will have no more interest in their oil than their sand and they can keep both of them. We will no longer finance both sides of terror. The military side with our tax dollars, and the terrorist side with our oil dollars. We might as well put a credit card in a hallmark envelope and send to Osama Bin Laden postmarked some cave in Pakistan, because what we're doing by financing the other side of terror with our oil money, we literally are pointing the gun pointed at our own head -- that's why we have to find real solutions to the problems we face in this country.

I am not sure that that is the focus of many of the people in Washington, D.C. it seems to be more about winning and losing the political battles and it is about solving the problems that we face. Like the health issue in this country. Most of the ideas involve shifting money around without solving the core problem. We don't have a health care crisis in America, we have a health crisis in America. Almost 80% of the expenditures in our country, which come to \$2 trillion a year are spent on chronic disease. A hundred years ago when someone died they died of infectious diseases. We have pretty much eliminated the various infectious health diseases that killed most people a century ago.

Today what kills us is chronic disease -- largely caused by smoking, overeating, under exercising. The health of America looks like an NFL football game. 70,000 people up in the stands in desperate need of exercise. A good assessment of where we are as a country. Most of the solutions being offered are involving let's find more money to spend -- the system is upside down. It has to start focusing on the prevention side. We will never be able to sustain the run-away costs of health care in this country as long as we're trying to chase an unhealthy population that is getting more unhealthy as we grow older.

Just three days ago, the first baby boomer signed up for social security, a schoolteacher in Pennsylvania. Following her will be 10,000 baby boomers a day signing up for social security, the largest demographic group to fall into that category. With a declining revenue into the system, and a large outgo out of the system, think of that, 10,000 a day. Wait until all of the aging hippies find out they can get free drugs when they sign up for Medicare. This country is really going to be in trouble, my friend. We're going to have to come to a place where we realize that we can't afford to continue this intervention based health care system, in part because without a prevention system, the next generation will cost a whole lot more than the already too expensive generation that we're funding. Childhood obesity at a rate, today we're seeing type two diabetes in kids as young as seven and eight years old. There was no medical evidence that a child that young could be type two diabetic. It only happened type one to juveniles, two to adults. That is no longer the case. In a brief period of time, we have come to a medical position that is uncharted territory. Here is what we know. A child who has type two diabetes, he will have a heart attack before 30, renal failure, kidney dialysis before he is 40, and will never see a 50th birthday. 61% of our active military are overweight, 61%. Healthiest group of the work force, and even they have a problem with a health issue. And so we have enormous challenges to face. They're not going to get solved if all we can do is blame somebody else for the problem.

I was a governor. I didn't have the luxury of simply being able to say it is all their fault. I had to balance a budget. I would go to jail if I didn't. Some were hoping I wouldn't get the budget balanced and they could get rid of me. Got to be where the five most feared words of an Arkansas politician were, will the defendant please rise? I did my best not to join that group. Our challenges are enormous. It is going to require the kind of leadership in which we no longer are simply trying to make republicans look good; democrats look bad, vice versa. I am an orthodox, conservative republican, if you want to put me on the horizontal scale, you can find me there. I believe in lower taxes, not higher taxes. I believe in less federal government, more local government. Our founding fathers designed this great system, and I think we have ruined that and this administration has been frankly one of the worst in steering us away.

I really do believe that we have to change our tax system. I am not talking about a tap of the hammer, twist of the screwdriver. That is not enough. I am an advocate supporter, if we go to what is often called a fair tax, a complete change of the tax code. Eliminates the IRS. It would eliminate taxes on personal, corporate income, dividends, savings -- we go to a consumption tax. I prefer that because we shouldn't be penalizing people for seeking to be productive. It throttles back business, throttles back individuals. It doesn't matter if they're at the top or bottom of the food chain. The current tax system does everything it can to put road blocks and impediments who are trying to create prosperity and move up to the next rung of the ladder.

I visited a machine shop (and met a man whose daughter was attending Cornell) -- grad school at Cornell, \$54,000 a year. My thought was thank god my daughter didn't want to go to grad school at Cornell this year. He told me I am working two shifts at the machine shop. I want my daughter to do better than me. I am working two shifts to help her pay for the education. Guess what, because I am working the second shift I am in a different income bracket and I am paying a higher tax rate than working the first shift. If you invest the money, we will tax the dividends. If you buy something and sell it and make a capital gain, we will tax the capital gain and we will penalize you there, and if you die we will come at you one more time. We are coming after you, man, that is the way it works. The only way -- if he wanted the government to help him, if he wanted the government to help him, you know what he could do, quit both shifts and she would qualify for federal assistance. What is smart about that? The government is saying if you will do nothing but sit on your hands, we will subsidize you. If you get out and work twice as hard as you were working, we are coming after you. We will make you sorry that you ever worked that hard. The system has got to be changed. It is counter-productive. It has driven jobs out of our country.

I sit on the stage with several of my republican colleagues running for president in Michigan a couple of weeks ago. I listened to what they were saying. In a macro sense the economy is doing great. If you are a CEO it is probably doing pretty well. But if you are out there in the heartland of America and you are working on the factory floor or if you are somebody serving the food, making the beds, handling the bags at the airlines, the economy is not doing so great. The reason the unemployment rate is so low is

because some people are working two jobs. They are working them because they have to. A lot of people are scared to death on this day, this Friday, they will go to work and it will be their last day at work. They will be given the pink slip. It is not just the loss of a paycheck, but the loss of a pension as well.

Two-thirds of the American people are suffering anxiety about the future of the economy. And for the first time since 1972, a college graduate, year after year is not getting a better place in his footing in the economy. That is pretty scary. First time since 1972. Up until then, up until now, rather, a person at least with a college degree could be assured that each year his or her income would keep them at the same level of life-style they had the year before. That no longer is the case. What happens is when we see a greater and growing disparity between the people at the very top and the people at the bottom, with a decimated and ever declining middle class, it is the recipe for an economic and social disaster.

I am not suggesting that government can engineer things. It is one of the things that drives me to be a republican. I don't believe in government intervening to redistribute wealth. Here is what i believe. Government needs to create the kind of system where individuals can be empowered, not penalized for their efforts to create their own wealth. A tax system needs to be fair, flat, finite, family friendly, and bring back the made in America brand again. If a country is going to be free, it has to be able to do three things. It has to be able to feed itself. It worries me when I see increasing levels of food from china and other countries coming to feed us. A country that can feed itself is free. A country who depends on somebody else to feed it is only as free as that country is willing to let it be. A country needs to be able to fuel itself. -- we have been obligated to the -- for way too long. For other middle east and other international sources of our energy, and it is absurd. It is no longer a matter of environmental interest, energy interest; it is a matter of national security for us to find alternative, renewable, domestically produced and environmentally friendly energy sources that we control. We have to fuel ourselves. And then we have to be able to fight for ourselves. We have to keep enough manufacturing in this country that we can manufacture our own weapons of self-defense. If we outsource capacity for self-defense, we outsource freedom itself. Those three things are critical.

I got to do a lot of fun things as a Governor. Sometimes they were great, like flying in an F-16, which is about the coolest thing I ever did. Michael mentioned my rock band, we're playing in Clear Lake, Iowa, a week from tonight. The surf ball room is the last place that buddy holly and the big bopper played before their plane crash. Because of the band I play in, I have been playing music since I was 11. I am going to Concord after this and play with the jazz band at the high school. We have twice opened for Willie Nelson, grand funk railroad, played a couple of the presidential inaugural parties. House of blues in New Orleans, cool places. Wow, you guys must be great. Actually we're not that good, but if you are the only sitting governor in America in a rock'n'roll band, you get invited to great gigs. That is the way it works. I get to do cool things.

I was invited to come out to Salt Lake City in February of 2001 to be a part of a conference. I went. It was before the winter Olympics a year later in February of '02. We

did the conference on Friday night. Ladies and gentlemen, special treat, tomorrow we will have the governor's bobsled competition. You will get to see the athletes in the Olympic village. I thought that was interesting. As he discussed this, it sounded as if the governors were expected to be in the bobsleds. This was problematic for me growing up in south Arkansas where we never saw snow. Even if we have snow, we don't know what to do with it so there is no point in having one. I don't think I know anything about a bobsled -- the thrill of victory, you see this bob sled -- the announcer says "the agony of defeat" that was in my mind as he described this. You are not serious about the bobsled deal. He said, don't worry. We will give you training.

I went back to the hotel and googled bobsleds. Dumb thing to do. Because I realized I had no business getting into a bobsled. This was prior to my personal health transformation; I was 110 pounds heavier than I am now. The first thing I learned, the sleds are gravity driven. I get to meet with my trainer. A 16-year-old kid is going to teach me to drive a bobsled. Training is putting spikes on your boots and starting at the bottom of the track which is one mile of solid ice from the bottom to the top, and walking with a kid up this ice-covered track with him describing where I needed to put the skids on each of the 13 curves in the track. He gets to number 11. He says this is, like, curve 11.

[LAUGHTER]

And when we get here, you need to have the skids, like right in this place here, cause if you get them up here, we could like go off, and that's not good. And if the skids get way down here low, we will like bounce back and forth against the wall. And that will hurt. And we get to number 10, 9, up the thing, I am supposed to remember where to put the skids. By the time I get to the top -- I am now terrified. I am pretty sure this is my last day on earth. When people say are you ready? My first thought was what am I ready for? Why are you doing this to me? Just before we go off, the kid gives me a piece of advice. Remember this, you will be fine. He said, when we come off the top of that hill, I will push us off and jump in and we will come down that hill and it will be amazingly fast. And he said, as soon as you see the first curve, which you will see as soon as we crest the hill, steer for it.

The time you reacted to it you will be in it. If you make a mistake, forget the ice behind you. It can't hurt you anymore. Thanks. And he said, once you are in the curve, do not try to correct inside the curve. Centrifugal force is in total control. What you have to do is just do one thing, only one thing, steer for the curve ahead. As soon as you see it, steer for it, by the time you have reacted to it, you will not only be in it, you will see the next one, steer for it. If you just do that, and you will be fine. That kid didn't realize it. But he gave me a great piece of advice, not just to drive a bobsled, but to govern a state. Lead a country, for that matter, to be a husband or a father.

What he said was there is not a lot we can do about the mistakes of the past. Some of the things we're in right now, we can't fix it all right now. But there is one thing we better do, if we're going to be able to finish the course, we have got to steer for the curve ahead. This country needs leadership. It is not just looking around and saying what can we do to

the other guys, but wants to steer for the curve ahead. If we will do that, the next generation of Americans will be able to live as we have better than the generation before us. If we don't do that, god forgive us, because we have squandered the greatest nation on earth, and we took this legacy and gift that our parents gave us and we turned it over to the next generation with a mess to try to fix that we didn't have the courage to do. May god give us the grace and strength to take the challenge and give our kids a better America than even the one we got. We can do that if we steer for the curves ahead. Thank you very much.

[APPLAUSE]

I am told that this is the dangerous part of the breakfast this morning where you get to ask questions. I think there is a microphone. The television cameras need that. That is what it is.

Audience member: Governor, there are -- I don't want to call them rumors, but there are statements that the Christian right or evangelical right is not happy with who the nominee might be because of philosophical positions. If they decide to go with another candidate besides the republican nominee who is more in line with their viewpoints, would you accept that nomination?

Mike Huckabee: No, I would not. I think a third party is disastrous. I can understand if many people who are of deep faith just sort of sit out the process, but to put energy towards a third party serves no purpose other than to elect the nominee for. The democratic party, and that is all it would do. I am not sure there is any great value in expending the time, money, and energy to that just to make a point. I don't expect that to be an issue. I expect to be the nominee, and, therefore, they don't have a problem. I will fix it for them if they give me the nomination. Make it easy. Where else do we have a question?

Audience member: Let me pose this in the context of your being president. I think, and I would like your comments, that we have been far too excessive in our self-congratulatory posture as it relates to the rest of the world. I would like to hear your comments as it relates to whether you concur on that assessment and what you would do to acknowledge what that has done in general to begin to shape in divisive fashion opinion about this country, particularly in the context of our thumbing our nose on a regular basis when it comes to both the lateral activity in the face of a 21st century that needs overdo candor when it comes to what the shape of the world is going to be that we somehow as a people have developed amnesia for in facing it realistically.

Mike Huckabee: Congressman, let me first of all say it is an issue I have written about extensively and it is in a chapter of a book I released this year. Let me try to summarize the position I have on that. Most every one of us grew up in a neighborhood where there was a kid who could do everything, terrific at everything. Maybe you were that kid in the neighborhood. If so, boo on you because the rest of us weren't. You all knew someone like that. He was good. If that kid constantly shoved his superiority in your face, danced

every time he got into the end zone, waved at you when he went past you at the basketball court and made you look foolish, when that kid put you down over the fact that he was better at things than you, what did you think about it? You didn't like it. You wanted him just once to fall, miss at the one yard line, not get the touchdown at the last play of the game. You wanted him to taste the turf like you had to taste it almost every day.

Take the same kind of talented kid. This time he has a different attitude. This time rather than him always shoving your face in it, he says, hey, choke up on the bat. You will get a better swing. I think you can hit the ball better. Hey, I know you had trouble on the spelling words. I will come over tonight and work on them. Think you can do better. If a kid was no less superior, but simply used his superiority to encourage you to be your best, what did you think of him then? You wanted to be like him. Held him to the highest esteem. There was a time in this world when everybody in the world wanted to be America. They respected us because we were a superpower. And when we act with a sense of arrogance, other countries resent it. It is not because they mind us being good. They mind that we put them down in the face of their own constituents and nations. Nobody likes to lose face. One of the things that is more offensive than anything is to lose face. No, America needs to be a stronger country. Stronger militarily, economically, socially, stronger in everything, but then to use our strength in the most positive way possible to encourage others. It is attitudinal more than -- that has to permeate the future of this country. It is critically important that we do that. Question way back here.

Audience member: I'm Jennifer Donahue, St. Anselm's college. I am curious about the war in Iraq. The analogy of funding both sides on the war of terror, and the philosophy that we should grow from the inside out in the United States. Are we sure that we are not fighting both sides over there? Are we clear enough on what our mission is and who we're fighting and who we're supporting that you can say it is a just war?

Mike Huckabee: It is a war that we are in. It is a war that we have to win and we have to win with honor. Let me explain why that is important. We have to win because if we don't -- if we just say we're leaving. That's it. We're tired, frustrated. We're not getting where we want to be as quick as we want to be, whoever leaves loses. Leaving is losing. We can't lose for a couple of reasons. The vacuum we -- Iran would love for us to walk away from it. They are funding so much of the internal insurgency inside of Iraq. Russia would love for us to leave Iraq prematurely. Because they would like to see that vacuum as well. We can't afford that vacuum to exist, not just for us or Israel but for the rest of the stability for the Middle East and the world. That would create an incredibly dangerous situation for terrorism camps to establish and other countries to fill the gap. It would demoralize our military. Neither are acceptable options. Have we made mistakes? You bet we have. Should we have done things differently and better? What we are doing there is working. Perfectly? No. But much better than before. I want to get out of there as quickly as we can, but I want to make sure that when we leave we leave with a reasonably stable Iraqi government that is friendly towards the united states, not a complete chaotic mess that will only be a vacuum for some other anti-American presence to take root, to grow, that will be used against us. I know that is not a popular position in

terms of the general population, get out, get out now. Leadership requires us to say there are some things that we have got to do that are not pleasant, and in fact, are painful, but are necessary for the long-term stability and security of the United States, and, frankly, I believe that is one of them. Let me take your question right here.

Audience member: I thought your assessment of the health crisis was right on target. My question is this, what do you see as the role of Government, whether federal or state in trying to address those problems?

Mike Huckabee: There are several things government can do. First of all change the system and put it right side up. It is upside down. Let me give you examples. What we do is, for example, we cover a \$30,000 foot amputation, but not the \$150 visit to the podiatrist that might have saved the foot. We have co-pays and deductibles on screenings for mammography, prostate cancer exams, when in fact the screenings would help us avoid the stage four cancers which are far more expensive not only in terms of dollars but human capital. When I was governor, we made changes on how we approach things. We gave people discounts on health insurance if they didn't smoke, and if they did a health risk assessment. Further discounts if they maintain normal body weight. We did calculations and realized that people overweight were costing us more than the weight loss program would. We paid for smoking cessation -- there is significant return on investment in doing it. What government has a role to do in a broad sense is that we have to start helping the culture to change from the culture of disease, which is where we are now, to the culture of health. That involves everything from how we design our cities with green space, walking trails, bike trails, and how we think about it in terms of policy.

Let me mention quickly. I know our time is getting away. Probably my last comment here. I have to let you go. You are saying fortunately you have to let us go. In my lifetime, there has been four great cultural shifts that I can think of that related to litter, smoking, seat belt use, drunk driving. Now, if you roll the clock back to the early 60s, late 50s, think about the litter problem that we had then and how we have changed in the way we deal with it. We have fines in my state up to \$1,000 even for throwing a cigarette butt out the window. Seat belts, after market device until 1967. It was later states started requiring that you had to wear them, except in New Hampshire, where it is live free or die. So, you live free and you die, you know, that's fine.

[LAUGHTER]

But in 49 other states, you have to wear the seat belt. I will not argue with you about that. Great tradition. I love New Hampshire. Go for it. My point is, it would be unthinkable in the other states to talk about mandating seat belt use. If this meeting had been held in the late 60s, there would have been ash trays on every table. There are no ash trays on any of the tables here. Nobody is smoking at any of the tables. It is because the culture has shifted.

Drunk driving -- mothers against drunk driving told us it wasn't very funny. All of these things are generational changes. The culture change, but it didn't change overnight. It

happened through a generation. If we are going to change the health care system in America and the health in the country, the reason politicians don't typically touch it is because it requires a generational change. Politicians like to solve things that can be fixed in two to four to six years because that is when they have to run again. We are going to plant seeds for trees whose shade we will never personally enjoy.

We have to start changing, three stages. Awareness, education, advertising. Second stage, you change the atmosphere. You start discouraging things, build a conditioning through the atmosphere. The third thing is the final thing, not the first, the final thing is the action phase. That is when government -- if you start with government trying to force the behavioral norm by law, you will lose because the battle will be over liberties and rights and not the issue itself. We will lose the battle. We will never get to where we need to be -- you cannot mandate people into good health habits. You have to bring them in through the stages as we have in other cultural stage. If we do that we can solve that problem. We better. If we don't there won't be enough healthy people around to fight our wars, drive our cars and fix the things that are broken. So many people are walking towards the stage. It must mean I am finished, folks. Thank you very much.

[APPLAUSE]

Michael Chaney: Thank you for being with us this morning, and as always to continue to remind you of the great state of New Hampshire, we have a Politics and Eggs mug for you to take with you.

Mike Huckabee: I have been mugged in New Hampshire. Thank you very much.

[APPLAUSE]

New Hampshire Public Television is proud to be a production partner of this "Politics and Eggs" webcast and the video archives project. "Politics and Eggs" is a project of the New Hampshire political library and the New England council with support from BAE systems, Clean Harbors Environmental Services, and Fidelity Investments.