

Mitt Romney

Flip-Flopper

Romney: I Believe that Abortion Should be Safe and Legal; I Support Roe v. Wade. [New York Times, 10/26/94]

Romney: Every Vote I Took Has Been in Favor of Life. [Charlotte Observer, 4/15/07]

Romney Refused to Publicly Endorse Bush Tax Cuts. [Boston Globe, 4/11/03]

Romney: Make Bush Tax Cuts Permanent. [Detroit Economic Club speech, 2/7/07]

Romney: I Will Not Enter Written Tax Pledge; Called Pledge “Government by Gimmickry.” [Boston Globe, 3/28/02]

Romney: I Just Signed One for Grover Norquist. [Boston Globe, 1/19/07]

Romney Pledged to Enforce Global Warming Regulations to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions. [Telegram & Gazette, 11/15/02; Los Angeles Times, 3/25/07]

Romney: Republicans Should Not Embrace the Ideas of Al Gore & Liberal Left. [Concord Monitor, 3/12/07; Boston Globe, 5/7/04]

Romney Signed Landmark Healthcare Legislation. [Governor Romney Press Release, 4/12/06]

Romney Distances Himself From His Health Care Plan. [Boston Globe, 2/3/07]

Romney: “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” Must Lead to Gays Serving Openly in Armed Forces. [Boston Herald, 10/20/94]

Romney Said He Supports Maintaining Don’t Ask/Don’t Tell. [CNN/WMUR/Union Leader Debate, 6/5/07]

Romney: Iraq War has been Mismanaged. [Omaha World-Herald, 3/23/07]

Romney: I Would NOT Presume to Do it Differently from Bush, We MUST Finish in Iraq. [*O’Reilly Factor*, FNN, 9/27/06]

Romney: I’m the Conservative Candidate. [Boston Globe, 3/2/07; Christian Broadcasting Network, 3/4/07]

Romney: I’m Not The Most Conservative Candidate. [NewsMax, 2/9/07]

Romney: I’m NOT Trying to Return to Reagan-Bush. [Boston Herald, 10/27/94]

Romney Posturing to be Successor to Reagan Legacy. [Associated Press, 4/16/07; New York Times, 11/8/07]

Fox's Hume: Romney has Support from Bush Family. Fox News anchor Brit Hume stated it was clear that Romney was earning support from the 'Bush Family.' Think Progress cited FoxNews transcripts to report, "I think some of the Bush family do support Romney, I think that's pretty clear," remarked Fox's Brit Hume." [Think Progress, 1/27/08]

Romney Voiced "Full-Throated Defense" Of Bush. The Washington Post observed that "Romney has now defined himself as the only candidate in the Republican field willing to come to Bush's defense," noting that Romney did "something not heard before in the campaign – a full-throated defense of the president." Romney posted a commentary piece on conservative townhall.com saying, "We can be thankful that President Bush has kept us safe." [Washington Post, 12/20/07]

Romney Defended Bush, Attacked Huckabee for Mocking President. Romney criticized Mike Huckabee on January 1 for joking in a recent interview that President Bush has not been well versed on foreign affairs. "I'm not sure if Mr. Huckabee meant the attack as a joke, but this is not the time to me mocking our president," Romney said. Deflecting criticism that he had not read the NIE report immediately after it had been released, Huckabee said, "President Bush didn't read it for four years; I don't know why I should read it in four hours." Romney attacked Huckabee: "It was in bad taste and I think we should recognize the great work our president is doing and not take our rhetoric or plays from the Democratic playbook," Romney said. "This is the kind of stuff you'd expect of the Democrats, but is certainly not something you'd expect of a presidential contender on the Republican side." [CNN Political Ticker, 1/2/08]

Romney Said He Loved The President For Keeping Us Safe. Romney said, "We also love a president who has kept us safe these last six years." [The Hill, 1/3/08]

Romney: We Are Fortunate To Have Bush. Romney said, "We are fortunate today to have a President who loves America, who acts solely out of a desire to protect her and to promote liberty around the world." [Romney Presidential Press Release, 4/10/07]

Bush Family Members Fundraised For Romney's Presidential Campaign; President Bush Fundraised For Romney In 2002. President Bush's younger sister Doro co-hosted a Washington fundraiser in February 2007 for former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney. One of the president's brothers, Neil M. Bush, attended a Texas event for Romney. And in 2002, President Bush "Bush raised \$1.25 million for Mitt Romney's Republican gubernatorial campaign in Massachusetts " when he headlined a fundraiser at Maine's Cap Arundel Golf Club. [Washington Post, 11/6/07; AP, 10/5/02]

2004: Romney Said He Would Do Whatever The Bush Campaign Asked Of Him, Noted His Personal Connections To The Bush Administration Two Days After The Election, . According to the *Boston Herald*, Romney said he would "do whatever the (Bush) campaign asks of me." The *Telegram & Gazette* reported, "At the Statehouse, Gov. Mitt Romney, who served the Bush campaign as the chief local critic of Mr. Kerry, said yesterday that he would now become the state's point man with Washington, D.C., and would use his personal connections with the Bush administration to keep federal assistance flowing into the state." [Boston Herald, 9/5/04; 9/8/04; Telegram & Gazette, 11/4/04]

Romney Saw Eye To Eye With Bush and Cheney

Romney Supported Bush Tax Cuts. “Mitt Romney has repeatedly pledged to keep the Bush tax cuts permanent.” [Mittromney.com, 2/8/2007]

On The War On Terror, Romney Would Not “Presume” To Do It Differently From Bush. In 2006, during an appearance on FOX News’ O’Reilly Factor, Mitt Romney said, “I wouldn’t presume to present a plan different from that of the President. But I believe he was right to take on the war on terror on an aggressive front rather than a defensive front.” [FOX New, O’Reilly Factor, 9/27/06]

Romney: We Ought To Double Guantanamo. During the debate in South Carolina held May 15, 2007, Romney stated that in his view “We ought to double Guantanamo.” He then went on to say “I want them in Guantanamo where they don’t get the access to lawyers they get when they’re on our soil. I don’t want them in our prisons. I want them there.” [Reuters, 5/16/07; C-SPAN, 8/11/07]

Romney Would Veto SCHIP Expansion. In 2007, when asked if he “were president today, would he veto the SCHIP bill as President Bush has threatened to do this week,” Romney said, “Yeah. Yeah, I sure would. I’d veto it out of my belief that we should have every citizen insured. I put forward a plan in my state that gets every citizen insured....The right pathway to get everybody insured is to help people get private insurance. The SCHIP pathway is simply the wrong way. It’s unfortunate the Democrats used this vehicle. It would have been far wiser to have a more comprehensive plan to have everybody insured.” [Kansas City Star, 10/01/07]

Romney Supported No Child Left Behind. Romney said, “I supported No Child Left Behind. I still do. I know there are a lot in my party that don’t like it, but I like testing in our schools. I think it allows us to get better schools, better teachers; allows us to let our kids have the kind of hope that they ought to have.” [GOP Presidential Debate, 5/15/07]

Romney Said As President He Would Have Signed An Assault Weapons Ban, Like Bush. When asked if he would sign an assault weapons ban Romney said, “Just as the president said, he would have signed that bill if it came to his desk, and so would have I, and yet I also was pleased to have the support of the NRA when I ran for governor. I sought it, I seek it now, I’d love to have their support. I believe in the right of Americans to bear arms.” [Meet the Press, 12/16/07]

Bush Liked What He Saw In Romney; Should The Country Be Scared?

Bush Praised Romney’s Values, Said Romney Romney Knew How To Create Jobs. In October 2002, Bush praised Romney as “the best person for the job of Governor of Massachusetts. I say that I know that because I know his values. He’s got his priorities straight: his faith, his family, and his state. And he’s not going to waver from those priorities; they’re etched in his heart. He’s got a record. He’s done things in life. He started his own businesses, he’s an entrepreneur. He knows how to create jobs when at a time when you need somebody in Massachusetts who knows job creation. He knows how to take a struggling organization and turn it around. He’s done that recently. He’s not one of these talkers that

you find in the political arena; he's a doer." [The White House, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/10/20021004-3.html>]

Bush Said He Was Proud Of Governor Romney. At a high school in New Hampshire, Bush said, "I appreciate old Governor Romney sliding across the border. (Applause.) I'm proud of his leadership. Here is an example of strong, steady leadership. He stands for what he believes." [White House Transcript, 8/30/04]

Bush Called Romney a "Great Governor." At a March 2004 Bush-Cheney reception at the Park Plaza Hotel and Towers in Boston, Bush said, "I'm proud of the job this good man is doing as Governor of this great state. Mitt Romney is a great governor." [The White House, 3/25/04, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2004/03/20040325-8.html>]

Bush Praised Romney's Job at the Olympics. In April 2002, Romney attended an event at the White House congratulating Olympic and paralympic athletes. At the beginning of his remarks, Bush said, "It's good to welcome Mitt Romney back to the White House. Mitt, you did a fabulous job." [The White House, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/04/20020423-8.html>]

Romney: The McCain Critic

Romney Refused To Be McCain's VP. Romney said, "I'm not going to be being any vice president to John McCain, either. That's not going to happen." [Romney Event (Sanford, FL), 1/28/08]

Romney: McCain's Record "Is Not Of The Kind Of Leadership You'd Want To Have." Romney said, "And frankly, being a committee chairman is not leading a great organization or making great things happen. And for that matter, you know, what's happened in Washington in the last 25 years? Have you seen the kinds of results that America wanted? Did they get the job done? Unfortunately not. So if he has been a leader, where has it led us? Look at his legislation. McCain-Feingold, that hurt our First Amendment rights? McCain-Kennedy, that was granting amnesty to 10 million illegal aliens? And then now, McCain-Lieberman, that wants to put a huge tax, effectively, on American gasoline buyers and rate-payers? His record is not of the kind of leadership you'd want to have." [CNN, Late Edition w/ Wolf Blitzer, 1/27/08]

Romney: McCain Lack Of Knowledge On The Economy Is "A Real Problem." Romney said, "But he doesn't want to talk about the economy, because frankly he has pointed out time and again that he doesn't understand how the economy works. And right now, that's the biggest issue that voters here in Florida are concerned about. And they want somebody who does understand the economy. And having him time and again say, I don't understand how the economy works, I have got to get a V.P. that will show me how it works, that's a real problem for him." Speaking in Florida, Romney said, There's another guy running on our side, Sen. McCain -- he's a good man, he's a hero -- but his views on the economy, well, I think are sort of summed up by his own statement that it's not really something he understands that well. He's said that a couple of times." [CNN, Late Edition w/ Wolf Blitzer, 1/27/08; Romney Event (Sanford, FL), 1/28/08]

McCain: Romney's Positions As Governor Are "Direct Contradictions" With The Ones He Proclaims Now. McCain said, "And the fact is, his record when he was in Massachusetts had many positions, most

positions are direct contradictions to the ones he proclaims now, including being ardently being pro-choice, saying he didn't want to go back to the Reagan-Bush years, which obviously is not something that most Republicans believe in, and supporting Democrats for various offices. So look, this debate is about our records, and this is about being honest with the American people, so if you're really going to get their respect, you have to respect them first." [ABC News, "Good Morning America," 10/15/07, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0Nm260SzCw>]

Romney's Failed Massachusetts Economic Record

Romney's Economic Record As Governor Is Shaky At Best. Boston Globe business columnist Steve Bailey wrote, "Since January 2003, when Romney took office, through the end of last year Massachusetts ranked 46th in job growth, up just 1.1 percent. In the last year, the gap between Massachusetts and the nation has widened, with the state's employment rising only four-tenths of 1 percent, or less than a third the national average of 1.3 percent. That put Massachusetts tied for 44th in the country. If all things in life are measured against expectations, Romney will have a particular problem explaining away the economy. He was going to be our CEO Governor, the state's top salesman who could talk businessman-to-businessman and bring home those good-paying jobs. It was all bunk, of course. But he said it, and he will have to live with it. There are 40,000 fewer people in the workforce than when Romney took over." [Boston Globe, column, 2/15/06]

Romney Increased Spending As The State Budget Grew Each Year. Romney proposed four budgets while in office covering fiscal years 2004-2007. Each budget increased spending over the previous year. The administration's FY04 budget called for \$23.270 billion in funding. The administration's FY05 budget called for \$24.514 billion in funding. The administration's FY06 budget called for \$25.097 billion in funding. And the administration's FY07 budget called for \$26.882 billion in funding. [Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, 6/23/03, 6/704, 6/10/05, 6/22/06]

No-New Tax Romney Raised Fees As Governor; Romney Increased Fees By \$400 Million And Raised Corporate Tax Revenue By \$300 Million. "Mitt Romney has the fever, the George Herbert Walker Bush no-new-tax fever. Read his lips. No new taxes. But what about new fees? On the presidential campaign trail, Romney brags about a \$3 billion budget shortfall he said he closed as governor, without any tax increases. He doesn't mention the more than \$400 million in fees he raised instead. He also raised more than \$300 million by closing so-called corporate loopholes, a revenue-raising measure the business community calls a tax increase." [Boston Globe, 10/11/07]