

## Governor Palin Announces No 2nd Term

No Lame Duck Session Either

July 3, 2009

Hi Alaska,

I appreciate speaking directly to you,  
the people I serve, as your Governor.

People who know me  
know that besides faith and family,  
nothing's more important to me  
than our beloved Alaska.

Serving her people  
is the greatest honor I could imagine.

I want Alaskans to grasp  
what can be in store for our state.  
We were purchased as a territory  
because a member of President Abe Lincoln's cabinet,  
William Seward, providentially saw in this great land,  
vast riches, beauty,  
strategic placement on the globe, and opportunity.

He boldly looked "North to the Future".  
But he endured such ridicule and mocking  
for his vision for Alaska,  
remember the adversaries scoffed,  
calling this "Seward's Folly".

Seward withstood such disdain  
as he chose the uncomfortable, unconventional,  
but right path to secure Alaska,  
so Alaska could help secure the United States.

People who know me  
know that besides faith and family,  
nothing's more important to me  
than our beloved Alaska.

Alaska's mission – to contribute to America.  
We're strategic in the world  
as the air crossroads of the world,  
as a gatekeeper of the continent.

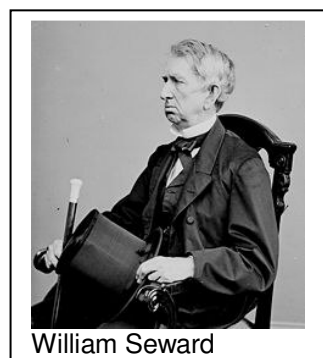
Bold visionaries knew this –  
Alaska would be part of America's great destiny.

Our destiny to be reached  
by responsibly developing our natural resources.  
This land, blessed with clean air, water,  
wildlife, minerals, and oil and gas.  
It's energy!  
God gave us energy.

So to serve the state is a humbling responsibility,  
because I know in my soul  
that Alaska is of such import,  
for America's security,  
in our very volatile world.



\$7.2 M check to purchase Alaska



William Seward

And you know me by now,  
I promised even four years ago to show my independence...  
no more conventional “politics as usual”.

And we are doing well!  
My administration's accomplishments  
speak for themselves.  
We work tirelessly for Alaskans.

We aggressively and responsibly develop our resources  
because they were created to be used to better our world...  
to help people...  
and we protect the environment and Alaskans (the resource owners)  
foremost with our policies.

Here's some of the things we've done:

We created a petroleum integrity office  
to oversee safe development.  
We held the line for Alaskans on Point Thomson –  
and finally for the first time in decades –  
they're drilling for oil and gas.

We have AGIA, the gasline project –  
a massive bi-partisan victory (the vote was 58 to 1!) –  
also succeeding as intended - protecting Alaskans  
as our clean natural gas will flow to energize us, and America,  
through a competitive, pro-private sector project.  
This is the largest private sector energy project, ever.  
This is energy independence.



And ACES – another bipartisan effort –  
is working as intended and industry is publicly acknowledging its success.  
Our new oil and gas “clear and equitable formula”  
is so Alaskans will no longer be taken advantage of.

ACES incentivizes new exploration and development and jobs  
that were previously not going to happen  
with a monopolized North Slope oil basin.

We cleaned up previously accepted unethical actions;  
we ushered in bi-partisan Ethics Reform.

We also slowed the rate of government growth,  
we worked with the Legislature to save billions of dollars for the future,  
and I made no lobbyist friends  
with my hundreds of millions of dollars in budget vetoes...  
but living beyond our means today is irresponsible for tomorrow.

We took government out of the dairy business  
and put it back into private-sector hands –  
where it should be.

We provided unprecedented support for education initiatives,  
and with the right leadership,  
finally filled long-vacant public safety positions.  
We built a sub-Cabinet on Climate Change  
and took heat from Outside special interests  
for our biologically-sound wildlife management for abundance.

We broke ground on the new prison.

And we made common sense conservative choices  
to eliminate personal luxuries like the jet, the chef, the junkets... the entourage.

And the Lt. Governor and I said "no" to our pay raises.

So much success in this first term –  
and with this success I am proud to take credit...  
for hiring the right people!  
Our goal was to achieve a gasline project,  
more fair oil and gas valuation, and ethics reform in four years.

We did it in two.

It's because of the people...  
good public servants surrounding the Governor's office,  
with servants' hearts and astounding work ethic...  
they are Alaska's success!

We are doing well!  
I wish you'd hear more from the media of your state's progress  
and how we tackle Outside interests - daily -  
special interests that would stymie our state.

Even those debt-ridden stimulus dollars  
that would force the heavy hand of federal government into our communities  
with an “all-knowing attitude” –  
I have taken the slings and arrows with that unpopular move  
to veto because I know being right is better than being popular.



Russian Treaty Validation

Some of those dollars would harm Alaska and harm America –  
I resisted those dollars  
because of the obscene national debt  
we're forcing our children to pay,  
because of today's Big Government spending;

it's immoral and doesn't even make economic sense!

Another accomplishment –  
our Law Department protected states' rights –  
two huge U.S. Supreme Court reversals came down  
against that liberal Ninth Circuit,  
deciding in our state's favor over the last two weeks.  
We're protectors of our Constitution –  
federalists protect states' rights as mandated in 10th amendment.

But you don't hear much of the good stuff in the press anymore, do you?

Some say things changed for me on August 29th last year –  
the day John McCain tapped me to be his running-mate –  
I say others changed.

Let me speak to that for a minute.

Political operatives descended on Alaska last August,  
digging for dirt.  
The ethics law I championed became their weapon of choice.  
Over the past nine months I've been accused  
of all sorts of frivolous ethics violations –  
such as holding a fish in a photograph,  
wearing a jacket with a logo on it,  
and answering reporters' questions.

Every one – all 15 of the ethics complaints  
have been dismissed.  
We've won!  
But it hasn't been cheap -  
the State has wasted thousands of hours of your time  
and shelled out some two million of your dollars  
to respond to "opposition research" –  
that's money not going to fund teachers or troopers – or safer roads.

And this political absurdity,  
the "politics of personal destruction" ...  
Todd and I are looking at more than half a million dollars  
in legal bills in order to set the record straight.  
And what about the people who offer up these silly accusations?  
It doesn't cost them a dime  
so they're not going to stop draining public resources –  
spending other peoples' money in their game.

It's pretty insane –  
my staff and I spend most of our day  
dealing with this instead of progressing our state now.  
I know I promised no more "politics as usual,"  
but this isn't what anyone had in mind for Alaska.

If I have learned one thing: life is about choices!

And one chooses how to react to circumstances.

You can choose to engage in things that tear down, or build up.

I choose to work very hard on a path  
for fruitfulness and productivity.

I choose not to tear down and waste precious time;  
but to build up this state and our country,  
and her industrious, generous, patriotic, free people!

Life is too short to compromise time and resources...

it may be tempting and more comfortable  
to just keep your head down, plod along,  
and appease those who demand:

"Sit down and shut up",  
but that's the worthless, easy path;  
that's a quitter's way out.

And a problem in our country today is apathy.

It would be apathetic to just hunker down  
and "go with the flow".

Nah, only dead fish "go with the flow".

No. Productive, fulfilled people  
determine where to put their efforts,  
choosing to wisely utilize precious time...  
to build up.



And there is such a need to build up  
and fight for our state and our country.

I choose to fight for it!

And I'll work hard for others  
who still believe in free enterprise and smaller government;  
strong national security for our country and support for our troops;  
energy independence;  
and for those who will protect freedom and equality and life...

I'll work for and campaign for those proud to be American,  
and those who are inspired by our ideals and won't deride them.

I will support others who seek to serve,  
in or out of office, for the right reasons,  
and I don't care what party they're in or no party at all.  
Inside Alaska – or Outside Alaska.

But I won't do it from the Governor's desk.

I've never believed that I, nor anyone else,  
need a title to do this -  
to make a difference... to help people.  
So I choose, for my State and my family,  
more "freedom" to progress, all the way around...  
so that Alaska may progress...  
I will not seek re-election as Governor.

And so as I thought about this announcement  
that I wouldn't run for re-election  
and what it means for Alaska,  
I thought about how much fun some governors have as lame ducks...  
travel around the state, to the Lower 48 (maybe),  
overseas on international trade – as so many politicians do.

And then I thought – that's what's wrong –  
many just accept that lame duck status, hit the road,  
draw the paycheck, and “milk it”.  
I'm not putting Alaska through that –  
I promised efficiencies and effectiveness!  
That's not how I am wired.  
I am not wired to operate under the same old “politics as usual.”  
I promised that four years ago – and I meant it.

It's not what is best for Alaska.

I am determined  
to take the right path for Alaska  
even though it is unconventional  
and not so comfortable.

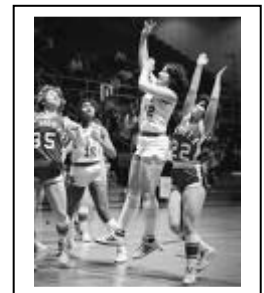
With this announcement that I am not seeking re-election...  
I've determined it's best to transfer the authority of governor  
to Lieutenant Governor Parnell;  
and I am willing to do so, so that this administration –  
with its positive agenda, its accomplishments,  
and its successful road to an incredible future –  
can continue without interruption  
and with great administrative and legislative success.

My choice is to take a stand and effect change –  
not hit our heads against the wall  
and watch valuable state time and money,  
millions of your dollars,  
go down the drain in this new environment.

Rather, we know we can effect positive change  
outside government at this moment in time, on another scale,  
and actually make a difference for our priorities –  
and so we will, for Alaskans and for Americans.

Let me go back to a comfortable analogy for me – sports... basketball.  
I use it because you're naïve  
if you don't see the national full-court press picking away right now:  
A good point guard drives through a full court press,  
protecting the ball, keeping her eye on the basket...  
and she knows exactly when to pass the ball  
so that the team can win.

And I'm doing that –  
keeping our eye on the ball that represents sound priorities –  
smaller government, energy independence,  
national security, freedom!  
And I know when it's time to pass the ball – for victory.



I have given my reasons candidly and truthfully...  
and my last day won't be for another few weeks  
so the transition will be very smooth.  
In fact, we will look to swear Sean in –  
in Fairbanks at the conclusion of our Governor's picnics.

I do not want to disappoint anyone with my decision;  
all I can ask is that you trust me with this decision –  
but it's no more "politics as usual".

Some Alaskans don't mind wasting public dollars and state time.  
I do. I cannot stand here as your Governor  
and allow millions upon millions of our dollars go to waste  
just so I can hold the title of Governor.  
And my children won't allow it either.

Some will question the timing.  
Let's just say, this decision has been in the works for awhile...

In fact, this decision comes after much consideration,  
and finally polling the most important people in my life - my children  
(where the count was unanimous...  
well, in response to asking:

"Want me to make a positive difference and fight  
for ALL our children's future  
from outside the Governor's office?"

It was four "yes's" and one

"hell yeah!"



The "hell yeah" sealed it -  
and someday I'll talk about the details of that...  
I think much of it had to do  
with the kids seeing their baby brother Trig  
mocked by some pretty mean-spirited adults recently.)

Um, by the way,  
sure wish folks could ever, ever understand  
that we all could learn so much from someone like Trig -  
I know he needs me, but I need him even more...  
what a child can offer to set priorities right –  
that time is precious... the world needs more "Trigs", not fewer.

My decision was also fortified  
during this most recent trip to Kosovo and Landstuhl,  
to visit our wounded soldiers overseas,  
those who sacrifice themselves in war for our freedom and security...  
we can ALL learn from our selfless Troops...  
they're bold, they don't give up,  
they take a stand and know that life is short  
so they choose to not waste time.

They choose to be productive  
and to serve something greater than self...  
and to build up their families, their states, our country.  
These Troops and their important missions –  
those are truly the worthy causes in this world  
and should be the public priority with time and resources  
and not this local / superficial wasteful political bloodsport.

May we all learn from them!

\*((Gotta put First Things First))\*

First things first: as Governor,  
I love my job and I love Alaska.  
It hurts to make this choice  
but I am doing what's best for Alaska.  
I've explained why...  
though I think of the saying on my parents' refrigerator that says  
"Don't explain: your friends don't need it  
and your enemies won't believe you anyway."

But I have given my reasons...  
no more "politics as usual"  
and I am taking my fight for what's right –  
for Alaska – in a new direction.

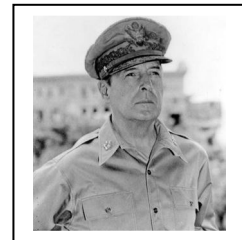
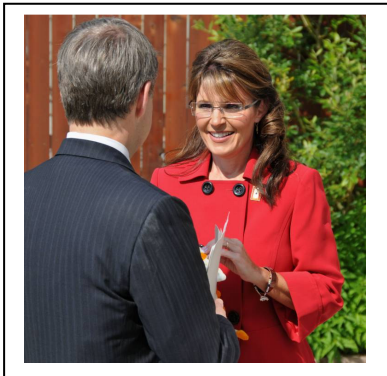
Now, despite this,  
I don't want any Alaskan dissuaded from entering politics  
after seeing this real "climate change" that began in August...  
no, we need hardworking, average Americans fighting for what's right!  
And I will support you because  
we need you and you can effect change,  
and I can too on the outside.

We need those who will respect our Constitution  
where government's supposed to serve from the bottom up,  
not move toward this top down big government take-over...  
but rather, will be protectors of individual rights -  
who also have enough common sense  
to acknowledge when conditions have drastically changed  
and are willing to call an audible  
and pass the ball when it's time  
so the team can win!  
And that is what I'm doing!

Remember Alaska...  
America is now, more than ever,  
looking North to the Future. It'll be good.  
So God bless you, and from me and my family -  
to all Alaska - you have my heart.

And we will be in the capable hands of our Lieutenant Governor, Sean Parnell.  
And Lieutenant General Craig Campbell will assume the role of Lieutenant Governor.  
And it is my promise to you that  
I will always be standing by, ready to assist.  
We have a good, positive agenda for Alaska.

In the words of General MacArthur said,  
"We are not retreating.  
We are advancing in another direction."



**Summary of reasons on why Sarah Palin resigned:**

1. Productive, fulfilled people determine where to put their efforts, and to build up, choosing to wisely use precious time, and to build up. She chooses to serve Alaska and America in a different capacity, having achieved numerous successes and leaving Alaska in the capable hands of Lt. Gov. Sean Parnell.
2. She chooses to build up for Alaska and the USA. She chooses to fight !
3. She will work hard for others who still believe in free enterprise and smaller government, strong national security, and energy independence
4. She will support others who seek to serve for the right reasons
5. She chooses more freedom to progress, all the way around, so that Alaska may progress.
6. She didn't want to be a lame-duck Governor and just "milk" the paycheck by taking trips and the like.
7. She is determined to take the right path for Alaska, even though it is uncomfortable and unconventional.
8. She chooses to take a stand and effect change, because positive change can occur outside of government as well as inside.
9. She wants to make a difference for the priorities we hold dear, for Alaskans and Americans.
10. She does not want Alaska's critical public resources to be wasted on frivolous ethics charges.
11. She is taking the fight for what is right for Alaska in a new direction.
12. She is not retreating. She is advancing the fight in a different direction.