

THERE SIMON GOES AGAIN, DISTORTING DAVIS' RECORD

He Distorts, We Deride Simon's False Charges and Negative Campaigning 8/17/03

<i>"Don't Send a Liberal" Rhetoric</i>	<i>Reality</i>
<p>ANNOUNCER: Last November, Gray Davis lied about the budget. He lied about the deficit. And he lied about Bill Simon.</p>	<p>This is laughable from the man who brought us "Photogate"!</p> <p>In an Adwatch on a similar charge from gubernatorial dropout Darrel Issa, the <i>Sacramento Bee</i> writes "There is no hard evidence that Davis deliberately withheld information from the public about the size of the budget problem last year, let alone engaged in 'massive' deception." [<i>Sacramento Bee</i>, July 15, 2003]</p> <p>All of the claims in ads aired by the Governor Gray Davis Committee during the last campaign were extensively documented and fact checked.</p>
<p>ANNOUNCER: But it turns out Bill Simon was right -- the Davis budget was a fraud.</p>	<p>There he goes again! Last year, Bill Simon hid behind empty rhetoric and flimsy excuses for his refusal to offer budget specifics. In case you're wondering, it's been 460 days since Simon refused to release any budget plan for fiscal 2002-03. And now he's a full year behind in proposing a budget for 2003-04!</p> <p>In an earlier story the <i>Bee</i> wrote, "Several independent finance experts note that Davis was forthcoming in May of 2002 -- despite his campaign -- about the budget picture being worse than when he proposed a budget at the start of that year. 'We felt they were being pretty upfront and reasonable about the magnitude of the problem the state was facing,' said Brad Williams, a senior economist for the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. When Davis revised his budget in May, Williams said, 'We both were estimating an economic recovery in the latter part of 2002 that didn't materialize.'" [<i>Bee</i>, July 13, 2003]</p>
<p>ANNOUNCER: While Davis presided over the largest spending binge in state history, Bill Simon was proposing to dramatically cut spending -- to root out waste, fraud and corruption.</p> <p>Now, on October 7th, we can set California back on the path to financial accountability by electing a tough, fiscal conservative -- Bill Simon.</p>	<p>All Simon told Californians last year was how he would increase spending as he pandered to special interest groups on the campaign trail. Here's a small sample:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon wanted to build off-stream water storage facilities and raise existing dams [Simon Release, June 5, 2001] • Simon wanted to flood a delta to create a reservoir. [<i>Contra Costa Times</i>, May 10, 2002] • Simon wanted to finance the construction of new transportation projects [Simon Release, August 21, 2001] • Simon wanted to use "shadow tolls". Such tolls allow the contractor to determine where to build the road, and the state then agrees to pay a fee for each user. [Simon Release, January 15, 2002] • Simon expected the State to pay for morning and after school programs [Associated Press, December 12, 2001] • Simon has called for a renter's tax credit [Simon Release, February 15, 2002] • Simon wanted to give homeowners a tax exemption of between \$25,000 and \$50,000 [Release, February 15, 2002] • Simon wanted to create two budget reserves [Simon Release, January 11, 2002] • Simon wanted to establish healthcare vouchers for the indigent and working poor [Simon Release, April 2, 2002] <p>Simon never had the courage to tell voters openly and honestly how he would pay for any of his proposals, much less what he would cut to balance the budget. Governor Gray Davis has consistently put forth detailed budget plans for the public to pore over, examine, criticize and comment upon.</p>
<p>BILL SIMON: I'm Bill Simon. Gray Davis tripled our car taxes, and now Arnold Schwarzenegger's team wants to triple our property taxes, which just goes to show you, don't send a liberal to do a tax-fighter's job. I've signed the pledge not to raise taxes. Isn't it time Arnold told us where he stood?</p>	<p>Again, Simon doesn't let the facts get in the way of his story.</p> <p>The law that Gov. Pete Wilson signed in 1998 makes clear that the reduction in the VLF is dependent upon the state's ability to "offset" the resulting revenue loss to critical public safety programs funded by the VLF. The statute mandates that the state's offset "shall" be reduced "during any period in which insufficient moneys are available to be transferred from the General Fund to fully fund the offsets."</p> <p>The law also said that when the state could not write a check to make up the difference, the fee would automatically go back up to protect police and fire services. Governor Davis strongly supports local fire and police. The money from the VLF supports first responders who protect our neighborhoods from both crime and terror. They need a secure source of funding now more than ever.</p> <p>And in case you missed it, one of Arnold's team members, Warren Buffet, said, "California has a vibrant economy." [Editorial, <i>Los Angeles Times</i>, August 17, 2003]</p>
<p>ANNOUNCER: Ready to put government on a diet? Bill Simon. Right on the issues. Right for California.</p>	<p>Actually, he's on the far right when it comes to protecting a woman's right to choose, protecting the environment, gun safety and human rights.</p>