

**WELCOME- I APPRECIATE ALL OF YOU JOINING ME HERE TODAY. BEFORE I MAKE SOME VERY BRIEF REMARKS, I'D FIRST LIKE TO START OFF BY RECOGNIZING SOME VERY SPECIAL GUESTS HERE WITH ME TODAY-**

**STARTING WITH MY COLLEAGUES IN GOVERNMENT :**

**FORMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER, FORMER CITY COUNCILOR, AND OUR CURRENT MAYOR, TOM AMBROSINO; FORMER BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR AND NEWLY ELECTED CLERK MAGISTRATE OF THE SUFFOLK SUPERIOR COURT FOR CRIMINAL BUSINESS, MAURA HENNIGAN; FORMER MAYOR, FORMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER, AND CURRENT CITY COUNCILOR, GEORGE COLELLA; PAST SCHOOL COMMITTEEMAN AND CURRENT CITY COUNCILOR JOHN CORREGGIO; WARD 5 CITY COUNCILOR AND CURRENT CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOHN POWERS; FORMER MAYOR AND CURRENT CITY COUNCILOR BOB HAAS; WARD 3 CITY COUNCILOR ARTHUR GUINASSO, WARD 4 CITY COUNCILOR, GEORGE ROTONDO; AND FINALLY, SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER, ANN RAPONI**

**SENATOR JARRETT BARRIOS DID CALL AND EXPRESSES HIS DESIRE TO BE HERE AS DID THE HIGH SHERRIFF OF SUFFOLK COUNTY, ANDREA CABRAL. THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR FULL AND UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR MY CANDIDACY.**

**NEXT, MY FAMILY:**

**MY FATHER AND MOTHER IN-LAW, JOE AND VIRGINIA FITZGERALD; MY SISTER IN LAW, VIRGINIA FITZGERALD; MY BROTHER PAUL AND HIS FIANCE JOYCE; MY SON RYAN COULD NOT BE HERE WITH US TODAY BUT I KNOW HE IS IN SPIRIT AS HE HAD A PRIOR MANDATORY COMITTMENT HE HAD TO TEND TO; MY SON NICHOLAS IS HERE; AND FINALLY, A WOMAN WHOM HAS BEEN BY MY SIDE SINCE I FIRST BEGAN AND SOMEONE WHO, WITHOUT HER INSPIRATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT, I COULD NOT HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION TO SEEK THIS OFFICE, MY WIFE, JANE.**

**I AM VERY HAPPY AND PROUD TO ANNOUNCE TO YOU TODAY, MY CANDIDACY FOR STATE SENATE FIRST SUFFOLK MIDDLESEX DISTRICT.**

**SENATE PRESIDENT TRAVAGLINI'S DEPARTURE FROM PUBLIC SERVICE HAS CERTAINLY LEFT A VOID IN THE COMMUNITIES HE REPRESENTED. WHILE HE WAS ELECTED AMONGST HIS PEERS TO SERVE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF STATE GOVERNEMENT, I BELIEVE IT WILL BE HIS HISTORY OF SERVICE, AND ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO ALWAYS STAY CONNECTED TO THOSE OF US WHOM HE REPRESENTED FOR WHICH HE WILL BE MOST REMEMBERED.**

**FILLING SENATOR TRAVAGLINI'S SHOES WILL BE A DAUNTING CHALLENGE, BUT ONE THAT I FEEL MORE THAN UP TO.**

**FOR CLOSE TO 8 YEARS I'VE SERVED THE RESIDENTS AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF REVERE AS ONE OF THEIR 5 COUNCILORS AT LARGE- DURING THAT TIME I'VE SUBMITTED OVER 375 MOTIONS, ALL AIMED AT INCREASING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE. I'VE SERVED FAITHFULLY AND DILIGENTLY AND YOU SHOULD EXPECT NO LESS WHEN I'M ELECTED AS YOUR NEXT SENATOR.**

**IN ADDITION, I EARNED MY DEGREE IN BUSINESS AND HAVE OWNED AND OPERATED MY OWN BUSINESS WITH MY BROTHER PAUL THAT HAVE SERVED THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES THROUGHOUT SUFFOLK, MIDDLESEX, AND ESSEX COUNTIES. I HAVE DONE MY BEST TO BE ACTIVE IN OUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY INCLUDING MY SERVING AS A 2 TERM PRESIDENT OF THE REVERE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AS PRESIDENT OF THE REVERE ROTARY CLUB**

**PART OF MY LIFE FOR WHICH I AM MOST PROUD IS MY 6 YEARS THAT I SERVED ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR THE UNITED STATES NAVY. THE VETERAN'S GROUPS THAT I CURRENTLY HOLD MEMBERSHIP IN ARE VERY DEAR TO ME INCLUDING THE VETERAN'S OF FOREIGN WARS, THE AMERICAN LEGION, AND THE AMVETS. MY YEARS IN THE MILITARY REALLY SHOWED ME**

**WHAT IT MEANS TO WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM, AND WHAT TEAMWORK CAN ACCOMPLISH. DURING THOSE YEARS, WE WERE ABLE TO END THE COLD WAR AND PROVIDE PEACE AND STABILITY FOR MANY YEARS THEREAFTER.**

**WHILE I COULD STAND HERE AND PONTIFICATE ON ALL THE THINGS I'D LIKE TO DO WHEN I AM ELECTED, I'D RATHER JUST PLEDGE TO YOU THIS;**

**YOU WILL HAVE A SENATOR THAT IS ACCESSABLE;**

**YOU WILL HAVE A SENATOR THAT PAYS ATTENTION TO THE ISSUES AND PROBLEMS THAT AFFECT ALL OF US INCLUDING;**

**THE EVER RISING FINANCIAL BURDEN BEING PLACED ON THE HOMEOWNERS OF OUR COMMUNITIES, DUE LARGELY IN PART TO FLAT, AND AT TIMES, REDUCED LEVELS OF LOCAL AID;**

**A NEW AND DEVELOPING CULTURE OF VIOLENCE THAT HAS PLAGUED OUR STREETS, INCLUDING THE CONTINUED RISE OF GANG ACTIVITY IN OUR STREETS AND NEIGHBORHOODS;**

**A RISING PRESSURE ON FINANCIAL RESOURCES THAT ARE MUCH NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT WE PROVIDE A FIRST CLASS EDUCATION TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AS THEY ENTER AND EVER CHANGING AND COMPETITIVE GLOBAL WORKFORCE; AND**

**A HEALTHCARE SYSTEM THAT WHILE RECOGNIZED AS AMONGST THE WORLD'S BEST, HAS BECOME ONE THAT HAS BECOME ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE AND IN SOME CASES UNAVAILABLE TO MANY OF OUR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH.**

**ADMITTEDLY, I DON'T HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS TO THESE PROBLEMS, BUT AS I'VE LEARNED THROUGHOUT MY LIFETIME, IF WE CAN WORK COLLECTIVELY TOWARDS SOLUTIONS, THERE**

**ARE ANSWERS; THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND, THAT MASSACHUSETTS CAN BE A PLACE THAT IS EMULATED AROUND THIS COUNTRY; THAT IS RECOGNIZED AS A PLACE WHERE FAMILIES CAN AFFORDIBLY LIVE AND WORK WHILE PROVIDING THEIR CHILDREN A TOP NOTCH EDUCATION, AND WHERE JOBS ARE CREATED AND NOT LOST.**

**I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ALL OF YOU DURING THIS UPCOMING SPECIAL ELECTION CYCLE, AND I ASK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, AND I ASK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE. YOU WILL BE THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND ALL THAT I DO WHEN I HAVE THE HONOR AND THE PRIVILEGE AS SERVING YOU AS ONE YOUR STATE SENATORS IN THE GOOD STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS.**

**THANK YOU**