

Keeping Up With Governor Palin By: Ron Devito

Facebook: Changing the Face of Political Discourse and Legislation

"Death Panels." With two words in a Facebook post, Governor Palin caused the removal of one onerous aspect of HR 3200, the proposed health care bill in the House: the "end of life counseling." Her Facebook post ignited an ongoing firestorm of public protest against the bill.

When she left office, Governor Palin had around 550,000 supporters on Facebook. As of this writing, she has 906,013. Her old Twitter Page still gains followers, standing at 148,744.

The Second Amendment's Guardian Angel

Governor Palin received five awards at the National Rifle Association's XVIII Gun Collectors Seminar in Anchorage for defending our Second Amendment rights. The most significant of these awards is a Benefactor Membership in the NRA, which is a \$5,000 addition to the Life Membership. Governor Palin is already well-known to be an NRA Life Member. The second award, a Gold Medal of Merit for the Promotion of Gun Collecting, had not been awarded to anyone in 10 years. The remaining three awards were life memberships at gun collector groups in Missouri, Ohio, and Texas.

This writer is formally nominating Governor Palin for the NRA's 2010 Sybil Lubington Women's Freedom Award.

Author Author

Governor Palin completed her autobiography four months after signing her book deal with Harper Collins. *Going Rogue: An American Life* is scheduled to be released November 17, 2009. Pre-order sales have made her book #1 for sales at both Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

Washington Speakers Bureau

To retain a speakers' bureau membership, a speaker must have some cachet that will bring the bureau revenue and must have superior expertise in oral communication. By having Governor Palin on its roster, the Washington Speakers Bureau is recognizing her speaking expertise and star power. Moreover, Governor Palin's association with this speakers' bureau reflects her recognition that the high volume of speaking invitations she is receiving requires the professional speaking events management the speakers' bureau provides.

Hong Kong

Governor Palin's speech in Hong Kong was a defining moment in her career. By low estimates, she earned an entire year of her prior gubernatorial pay with this single speech, which impressed even bitter enemies. Although Governor Palin has significant foreign policy and trade experience as Alaska routinely had more than \$3.6 billion in exports each year, this speaking engagement gave Governor Palin trade experience from a foreign perspective. By speaking in Hong Kong, she gained first-hand knowledge of another culture, language, and customs.



Hong Kong is especially fitting for the Governor's first foreign speaking engagement as it is a Special Administrative Region in the People's Republic of China. Hong Kong works so well that Communist China left that city's capitalist system intact! That speaks volumes as to the stark difference between Governor Palin and the current tenant of the White House, regarding the superiority of capitalism over communism.

Ride 2 Recovery Charity Dinner

Governor Palin auctioned a dinner with herself and up to five guests to benefit Ride 2 Recovery's wounded warrior program. Cathy Maples of Huntsville, AL donated \$63,500.00 to the program with her winning bid. 