Open Letter to the People and Assembly of Sierra

My fellow Sierrans,

I intend to keep this as brief as possible.

Over the course of my career in this wonderful state, I've had the pleasure of serving alongside some of the most dedicated civil servants a citizen could ask for. Having lived most of my life in the suburbs of Southern California, and being the son of a small business owner, I've been fully aware of the issues that face the middle class.

The desire to face those issues head-on, to solve them and ensure that the middle class had a secure future was what inspired my entry into politics. But along the way, my scope of the issues facing the people widened. I gained a greater understanding of the problems facing all people of all classes.

Whether you are making less than $20,000 or more than $1,000,000 annually, or some number in between, you are being overtaxed and overburdened by government overregulation. In California especially, an overabundance of laws has created flaming hoops that citizens must jump through if they want to merely ***start*** their own business.

The government should be ***clearing*** the path to the American Dream, not setting up a near impossible obstacle course. Nor should the government be providing services that can be better provided by private industry and the free market. For the government to have the *audacity* to compete in areas of the market, funded by taxes taken from the people they're competing with, whose livelihoods they are ***draining***... It is unfathomable.

I am glad to say that I am not the only representative that recognizes these issues. I have had the great honor of working alongside members of the Sierran Assembly, both Democrats and Republicans alike, toward correcting government overreach. It is clear to me that, though we may have some fundamental disagreements, both sides of the aisle want what is best for the state of Sierra and the people that make it such a brilliant and vibrant place to live.

During the Lt. Governor's hearing, he and I had what seemed to be a fundamental disagreement on the nature of rights. I voted against his confirmation... Still, the Lt. Governor and I shared no hard feelings toward each other, and he and I recently submitted a bill together that will begin the process to assess and create a new budget for our state. I have worked with Assemblyman ODYG on a bill to address some of the most dire problems facing our public schools.

As I recently stated to another Assemblyman by the name of JayArrrGee when

discussing the nature of politics: “So much more could be accomplished if we it was treated like potential progress instead of a popularity contest.” It was a sentiment that he enthusiastically agreed with.

I’ve made it a point to set partisan politics aside where I can, and to judge solutions to issues based on their merits, and not whether the person proposing them has an “(R)” or a “(D)” before their name. My ability, willingness, and eagerness to reach across the aisle and shake hands in partnership, instead of to spit across it in undeserved fury, is what I would hope the people of Sierra, and the wonderful civil servants in the Sierran assembly will most associate with my name. The people of Sierra have always been my number one priority.

In fact, when the Republicans gained seats in the House of Representatives during the midterms, I was offered a position as a congressman. I was told I would have to give up my position in the assembly for a “better position”... It was those last two words that stood out. Many people in politics would hear those words - “better position” - and begin to salivate... But I didn’t. Instead, I respectfully declined the offer to be a congressman, because the best position for me is the one I earn. The best position for me is in the State of Sierra until I have solved the issues that desperately need solving. Once I can say with confidence that my state, my beloved Sierra, no longer needs me... Maybe then I will consider a position in congress.

Until that day comes, I will be loyal and committed to the people of this state. I genuinely hope that all who hear these words will know them to be true. Because I, Speaker of the Assembly Atlas_Black, am officially putting in my bid to run for Governor of the great State of Sierra. Should I be elected, I will continue to serve to the best of my ability. I will continue to work alongside every member of the assembly, regardless of whether they are on the right, the left, or in the middle. I will proudly and fiercely defend the rights of all people, the livelihoods of all people, and I can’t think of a more effective way to do it than as your Governor.

May Sierra remain blessed.
Speaker of the Assembly: Atlas_Black

