



**The University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida**

In one of the campaign's first "big" rallies, hosted by the Liberal Women's Club at UF, Rachel waits in an area behind a curtain. On a makeshift stage in the McGuire Art Building's large gallery, several figures rally the crowd — about a hundred students and maybe a hundred or so others — with peppy get-out-the-vote speeches.

The event starts with Alachua County Democratic Women chair Linda Williams welcoming the attendees, then Gainesville Mayor Lauren Poe calling for everyone in the room to register to vote, and for students to obtain absentee ballots. Finally, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter stresses the importance of participating in the civic process, and then welcomes Rachel Fischer to the stage. Rachel exits from behind the curtain, hugs Mrs. Carter, and smiles as she speaks (in the mic) to the crowd.

Wow! Thank you all so much for being here! This is really an honor. This is so important. Thank you Misses Miller and Paris. And thank you Mrs. Carter. I've always admired you. It is so thrilling to be here, speaking at my alma mater.

Listen, I never thought I'd run for office. But my patience for inaction in our state legislature had run out. I had to run. It was something I'd have never believed in college, if you told me that I would be standing here again today, running for election for a full term as Lieutenant Governor. But here we are!

My name is Rachel Fischer and I'm running for reelection as Dixie's Lieutenant Governor. And guess what, ladies? We are doing it with one full time staff member — Sam, please wave to everyone. Everybody give a hand to Sam. Yes, she's so wonderful. But I'm doing it without a dime of contributions from political action committees either.

Have you ever wondered why internet service providers are allowed by the government to package your private browsing data and sell it to the highest bidder without your consent? Have you wondered why our access to healthcare is constantly at risk? And have you wondered why college education is becoming so expensive, with no options for students to offset those costs?

It's because the corporations and the special interests have purchased access to our legislators. And now they're buying their outcomes. The government has become so corrupted, and corroded, and captured by those who have money that the voice of the people that it should be representing is not being heard.

That's why Dixie is the only state in America that has not expanded Medicaid to 5.3 million Americans. That's why hard working people in this state cannot find a living wage. That's why our seniors hurt and can't survive off of their destroyed pensions. And that's why our education system is broken, and benefits the contractors who sell textbooks more than it benefits the teachers and students it's supposed to be built for.

That's why you and I, together, are going to make sure that we change our democracy and give power back to the people. I never want you to have to wonder whether I'm voting for you or the special interests. It will be you, each and every single time. You are more than a match for the corporations and special interests.

You're going to help us win this race and take back our democracy. We're going to do something great for Dixie, and something fundamentally important for the future of this country. Thank you all for coming today. Thank you all so much.

Rachel steps down from the stage and hugs her hosts and the people who introduced her. She proceeds to speak, hug, and take pictures with many of the students in attendance.

